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Portfolio £22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 available to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition: the weekly prize of £20,000 and the daily £2,000. Yesterday's daily prize was shared by two winners, Mr Charles Day of Northolt, Middlesex, and Mr Graham Lloyd-Rees of Aberystwyth. Each received £1,000. Portfolio list, page 30; prices changes, information service back page. Readers who would like a Portfolio card should send a stamped addressed envelope to: The Times Portfolio, PO Box 40, Blackburn BB1 6AJ

French air collision kills 13

Thirteen members of the French Air Force were killed yesterday when two military transport planes crashed near Castres, southern France, during a training exercise. The C160 Transall planes were flying below 300ft when their wings touched. Moments earlier they had dropped 120 paratroops.

Plot to kill Alfonsin

Police have foiled a plot to kill Argentina's President Alfonsin. The government said two men were under arrest at Cordoba where a bomb exploded in a soccer stadium where the President was to address a rally. Beagle doubts, page 5

Gale damage

High winds and heavy rain caused flooding and damage in the south of England, disrupted cross-Channel hovercraft services and led to sea rescues. Page 2

Pound falls

Sterling fell nearly a cent against the dollar in London to \$1.2185, under pressure from a sharp drop in spot market prices for North Sea oil. Page 23

OAU warning

President Nyerere of Tanzania, this year's president of the Organization of African Unity, who admitted that the OAU can do little to alleviate famine in Africa. Page 4

£1.4m painting

The National Gallery paid the highest auction price for a work by an English artist other than Turner, when it spent £1,419,600 on a painting by Joseph Wright. Page 10

Second loans

Some building societies have announced the availability of second loans, added to existing mortgages, for purposes such as car buying or paying school fees. Family Money, page 27

Arafat backed

Arab moderates rallied to Mr Yasser Arafat's support in Amman, with King Hassan of Morocco promising to support the PLO leader against his Palestinian opponents in Damascus. Page 4

Andreotti denial

The Italian Foreign Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti, denied to members of Parliament in Rome that he had wrongfully promoted a general who became involved in a tax scandal. Page 5

Celtic replay

Celtic have been ordered by the UEFA appeals committee to replay the home leg of their European Cup Winners Cup tie with Rapid Vienna. Page 31

Leader page, 9
Letters: On industrial attitudes, from Dr L. A. Siedentop; benefit cut, from Mrs Helen Hopkin and others; Okhampton by-pass, from Lord Foot and others. Leading articles: Abolition Bill; Irish imbroglio; parliamentary protests. Obituary, page 10. Sir George Deacon, Professor R. F. Whelan

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NCB may withdraw job guarantees if strike continues

● The coal board said it could not offer a guarantee of no compulsory redundancies if the miners' strike continued
● Miners at work by next Friday will be paid £175 on account pending the final settlement of the 1983/84 wage claim

● A gang of hooded men armed with baseball bats beat up a working miner in his home in Yorkshire
● Mr Neil Kinnock told Soviet trade union leaders in Moscow that the Russian media coverage of the miners' strike was misleading

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The National Coal Board last night made it clear that it could not offer a cast iron guarantee that there would be no compulsory redundancies if the miners' strike continued.

The board's announcement proved another embarrassment to the Government which indicated that it did not expect pitmen to be forced out of the industry.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said that the back-to-work guarantees were still intact, but the stoppage could mean the loss of jobs in previously viable collieries.

The clash emerged during a conversation between Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, and management unions, in which he said that there could be no absolute jobs guarantee because of the deteriorating state of the pits.

A statement issued yesterday by the board reiterated the policy of no compulsory severance as a result of the industry's "normal review procedure".

But it added a warning: "In exceptional circumstances beyond the board's control where the industry's assets are destroyed or become unworkable because of strike action or vandalism, it may not be possible to apply this guarantee."

The difference was being treated as one of emphasis, but the board seemed to be keen to add a stick to the financial carrot it offered pitmen yesterday.

The coal board are to pay a maximum of £175 to working miners on account pending final settlement of the 1983/84 claim. The new incentive is being offered in response to protests from working miners who criticized the bonus payments offered to those returning to work.

The new bonus will be eligible only for those miners at work by next Friday.

Meanwhile the coal board said that 941 "new faces" reported for work yesterday, bringing the total for the week to nearly 6,000, compared with last week's 5,016.

Mr MacGregor said in Paris on Thursday that if 15,000 more miners returned to work, he would consider the strike over.

The dispute over the redundancy issue came after Mr Ken Sampey, president of the National Association of Colliery Overmen and Deputies (Nacods), claimed that Mr MacGregor had gone back on his assurances.

At a meeting last Tuesday of the Coal Industry National Consultative Council, Mr Sampey reminded Mr MacGregor that he had refused to give a "no compulsory redundancy" guarantee at earlier talks. He asked him to do so.

Mr MacGregor replied: "I cannot alter that minute and I cannot give you any assurance that there will be no compulsory redundancies."

Mr Sampey said that the reason given was that it was not possible to know how many coal faces would be lost by the time all the men were back at work. 21 pits had already been abandoned.

Mr Sampey, who disclosed the exchange with Mr MacGregor on BBC radio programme *World at One* yesterday, said that the chairman had given the assurances in public and so had Mr Walker.

Mr Walker, speaking last night on the Channel Four programme, *A Week in Politics*, said that Mr MacGregor's statements had been incorrectly reported. He said the coal board chairman's position was that if any miner lost his job because his pit was uneconomical and therefore closed, the board would guarantee that miner a job in another pit. However, if "economic" pits were lost because of the dispute those jobs would be forfeited.

Village mourns, page 2
New bonus, page 2

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New bonus, page 2



Mr Michael Fletcher in hospital after yesterday's attack.

Working miner attacked at home

From Peter Davenport, Castleford, West Yorkshire

A gang of hooded men armed with baseball bats yesterday attacked and badly beat a working miner in his own home.

The attack on Mr Michael Fletcher, aged 24, came five days after he resumed work at Fryson colliery near Castleford.

The attack was condemned by a local spokesman for the National Union of Mine-workers who said it may have been carried out by "outsiders". But a spokesman for the National Coal Board said it was proof of intimidation to discourage miners from breaking the strike.

As his pregnant wife comforted their two young children upstairs, too terrified to help as he screamed out in pain, Mr Fletcher was systematically beaten by the six men. He suffered a broken ankle, broken shoulder, a dislocated elbow and shoulder, and badly bruised ribs.

Despite the attack, Mr Fletcher remained defiant. From his hospital bed he said that he would return to work as soon as doctors passed him fit, saying: "I will not let them stop me. This has just made me more determined."

The spokesman for the National Coal Board in Yorkshire, condemning the attack as "horrific", said: "This is the visible proof of what we have been saying for months: that but for the violence and intimidation in the pit villages many thousands more men would have gone back to work. It is the worst example of violence against an individual in the entire dispute. They seem to set new limits each day."

"I was confronted with about 20 pickets, some of them hooded. As I walked from the garden of my house one of them grabbed hold of me and said 'You're not going to work today - you're going back home'."

"I set off home, intending to phone the police. As I got near to the fence of my house somebody called me a scab and they started chasing me."

"I ran into the house to phone the police and they kicked the door open. Six of them came in and started hitting me with baseball bats. Luckily, my wife and family were upstairs."

Mr Fletcher, a miner for seven years, went back to work on Monday under pressure. Continued on back page, col 7

GCHQ gives 'union or job' warning

By Craig Seton

Staff at the Government's Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham have been told that this week's House of Lords judgment means they must now give up trade union membership or accept transfer to another part of the Civil Service.

Those who refuse risk dismissal. At present about 350 have refused either to transfer or quit their union.

Mr Peter Marychurch, director of GCHQ, yesterday circulated a letter to all the staff, saying that the Lords' judgment "marks the end of the domestic legal process", and confirm that the ban was valid in domestic law.

He told staff that it was the Government's intention that the changes in conditions of employment announced on January 25 "should now be fully implemented, and, to this end, the staff transfers unit will renew their efforts to find alternative posts within the Civil Service for those of you who have indicated you are unwilling to serve under the new terms and conditions."

Although the letter does not spell it out, it is accepted that management will go ahead with plans to transfer not only those who have agreed to a move, but also those who have refused to give up trade union membership, or accept a transfer.

The management realizes that if a member of staff refuses to cooperate in planning his or her transfer, or refuses to accept that transfer once it has been arranged, management would have to consider dismissing that person. It was made clear yesterday that dismissal was an option senior management was deliberately retaining.

Mr Marychurch's letter told staff that they could sign option A, giving up membership of a trade union and receiving £1,000.

But, the most difficult members of staff to deal with will be the 350 or so members of GCHQ trade unions who have refused to be transferred or give up trade union membership.

The management, apparently, is not unduly moved by their plans to appeal to the European Court of Human Rights, but intends to wait to see how many of the "non-optants", as they are called, change their minds after the Lords' ruling, before proceeding to tougher plans.

The Government and the GCHQ management were unable to act against those resisting the ban while its legality was being tested in the British courts.

Not that the process is over, they recognize that the bar on Continued on back page, col 8

Russians 'misled' about strike

Kinnock dispels Soviet myths

From Richard Owen, Moscow

possibility of a very small minority which responsible union officials were trying to restrain. The violence was regarded with horror by mining communities and the labour movement, and many senior policemen were aware of the awful possibilities of a breakdown of order.

Asked why he had not named Mr Arthur Scargill among those opposed to violence, Mr Kinnock said miners' leaders had spoken out "at pit and national level". As for "other individuals concerned", it was up to them to "make their declarations, and they must be responsible for those declarations and the way in which they make them".

Mr Kinnock said the Soviet officials had not mentioned Mr Scargill and claimed never to have met him. The officials had only seen Mr Scargill on television.

He attacked the Thatcher Government's "war of attrition" against the miners, which he said was causing great misery and vast money. But he added: "I think it is a mistake for a labour movement at this period in history to consider that there is one cataclysmic event which finishes it for all time... The labour movement needs to win on other occasions."

The Labour leader denied that he was anticipating defeat for the miners, or distancing himself from Mr Scargill, but said it was wrong to suggest that "if the miners go down everybody goes down."

This is a cataclysmic view of events which makes it appear that the fortunes of the whole movement rest on a single dispute," he said.

Mr Kinnock said the fuel embargo announced by the Soviet coalminers leader on television last month and then withdrawn by the Kremlin as a mistake had not been clarified in his talks.

Soviet-US talks, page 5

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Soviet-US talks, page 5

FitzGerald initiates peace with London

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Peace moves to heal the rift in Anglo-Irish relations continued yesterday with a personal message from Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, to Mrs Thatcher.

There is deep gloom in Dublin over prospects for future progress towards breaking the political deadlock in the North, but officials in both countries have been active in attempting to end the post-summit differences.

Their efforts to retrieve a situation which British officials confess went disastrously wrong are unlikely to be helped by a speech from Mr Encha Powell, Official Unionist MP for Down, South, delivered last night on the eve of his party's annual conference.

His praises for Mrs Thatcher's stance and the integrationist line of the speech is likely to be echoed in today's

Murray has heart operation

Mr Len Murray, the former General Secretary of the TUC, was "comfortable" last night after undergoing by-pass heart surgery at The National Heart Hospital in London.

"He remains comfortable and we are satisfied with his progress," said a hospital spokesman. "We are hopeful that he will be discharged next weekend."

The operation was performed on Thursday by heart transplant surgeon Mr Magdi Yacoub.

Mr Murray, aged 62, stepped down as TUC General Secretary after the Brighton Congress in September. In July he collapsed at a Tolpuddle Martyrs rally in Dorset, and has been an outpatient at the Hospital since then.

Recent tests showed he had severe disease of the arteries.

Thousands confused by BT forms

By Philip Robinson

Thousands of small investors are filling in their British Telecom application forms wrongly and now run the risk of receiving no shares in the world's largest privatization issue.

Kleinwort, Benson, the merchant bank which is advising the Government, said last night that the most common error was applying for quantities of shares which were not on offer.

A spokesman for Henry Cooke Lumsden, a stockbroking firm which is one of the regional coordinators, said that incorrect application forms in Manchester, running at one in three.

This is the first time that a new share issue has been made so widely available to those who have no previous experience in share ownership.

Applicants have been requesting shares in blocks of 500 or 1,000. Abridged prospectus, page 28, 29

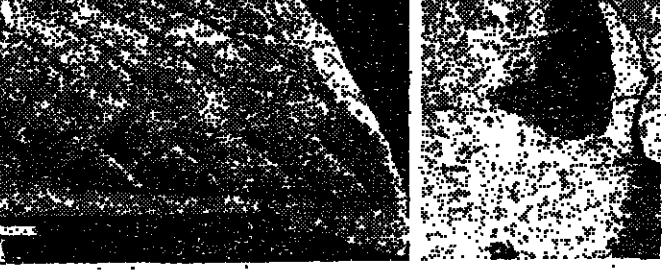
Sphinx to get its beard back after 166 years

By Richard Dowden

The Great Sphinx of Giza is to get back the bit of its beard which has been in the British Museum for 166 years; but only on loan.

Under an agreement which has taken two years to negotiate, the museum will exchange the fragment on long-term loan in return for the body of the jackal deity Anubis, the head of which the museum already has. The museum is also to send back the Uraeus or diadem from the Sphinx's brow.

The draft agreement has been sent to Cairo and is expected to be signed shortly. Negotiations have been slowed down by an announcement



Going back: The fragment of beard, and the Sphinx.

The Egyptian Antiquities Department is to prop up the head of the Sphinx which has become unstable, with metal bars running from chin to chest. They will then hide the bars by restoring the beard. The fragments were given to the museum by an Italian naval captain, who excavated them

from the sand at the base of the Sphinx. They have spent most of their life at the museum, in the storage basement.

Although the Museum emphasizes that the agreement is not a precedent, it has given new hope to those campaigning for the return of the Elgin Marbles to Greece.

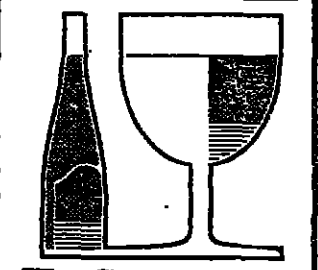
Professor Robert Browning, Chairman of the British Committee for the restitution of the Parthenon Marbles, said yesterday: "The move clearly shows that where there is a will to solve the difficult problems of the return of cultural property there is a way."

He said the loan was a cover for restitution. He was glad that at last the museum was taking the issue seriously.

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ILLEGAL ILLEGAL

Paperback pirates
Author Salman Rushdie calls for action to stop the illegal copying of books
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Monday



Marriage lines
How the sharp increase in divorces is changing the British family

Another try
Full match report on Australia's bid to win the third leg of their grand slam

THE FAMOUS Grouse
FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY
The Famous Grouse is a Scotch Whisky made from 100% pure malted barley. It is a blend of the finest Scotch Whiskies, selected from the best distilleries in Scotland. The Famous Grouse is a Scotch Whisky of exceptional quality and character. It is a blend of the finest Scotch Whiskies, selected from the best distilleries in Scotland. The Famous Grouse is a Scotch Whisky of exceptional quality and character. It is a blend of the finest Scotch Whiskies, selected from the best distilleries in Scotland.

Its more than just the price that sets it apart.
Quality in an age of change.

Powell urges Unionists to rejoice at setback for Irish unity after summit

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Enoch Powell said last night that Ulster Unionists could rejoice over the outcome of the Anglo-Irish summit earlier this week because the Prime Minister had broken out of a vicious spiral which had been intended to create the framework of an all-Ireland state.

As the Government made discreet attempts to repair the apparent rift in relations between the two countries caused by remarks by both Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the republic's Prime Minister, since Monday's meeting, Mr Powell, official Unionist MP for Down South, said the thread of the plot to achieve a united Ireland had been snapped. He said it was "a plot woven before 1979, and dyed with blood of Mountbatten and the soldiers who perished at Warrenpoint".

As the Government tries to make a concerted effort to

reduce the tension between the two countries, Mr Powell's outspoken intervention, in a speech to the Ulster Unionist Council at Newcastle, Co Down, will not have been regarded as helpful by ministers.

Senior Cabinet ministers were continuing to place importance yesterday on the resumption of talks between the Ulster political parties, and on the Social Democratic and Labour Party returning to the Ulster Assembly.

The Government is said to want to move forward in the spirit of the communiqué issued after the Chequers summit in an effort to restore peace and stability.

But Mr Powell argued last night that a turning point for Ulster had been reached, the Prime Minister had fought down the civil servants in the Northern Ireland and Foreign offices who had been engaged in making arrangements with their

Irish and United States opposite numbers behind the backs of ministers.

He said: "Well Mrs Thatcher did assert herself and the anger and despair of John Hume [Leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party] and Garret Fitzgerald registered the anguish of those who had been encouraged by British officials to believe that Her Majesty's Government would be caught on the bait of the New Ireland Forum like a pike hooked with a piece of cheese."

He added that the way was now open, perhaps for the first time in 5 years, for the practical as well as the merely verbal acknowledgement that Ulster was an integral part of the United Kingdom.

"We may therefore with a good heart and conscience say to one another 'rejoice, rejoice: there is work to be done.'"

Leading article, page 9

IRA gloats over talks rift

From Richard Ford, Belfast

It is with glee and satisfaction that the Provisional IRA's newspaper trumpets the Anglo-Irish dispute after the summit. In their wildest dreams, the leadership of Provisional Sinn Féin had not expected to be handed such a bonus so soon after the Chequers meeting.

The movement's prediction of no progress has been vindicated. As Mr Danny Morrison, publicity director of Sinn Féin, said recently: "Britain is only going to move when the IRA, through a long sustained campaign, breaks the British political will to remain in Ireland."

Killing fuels Ulster fears

Gunmen shot dead an unemployed Roman Catholic man in Belfast yesterday, bringing fears the "loyalist" assassins have begun a new campaign of sectarian killings in Northern Ireland.

Mr William McLaughlin, aged 25, was the third Roman Catholic to be killed on a Friday in the city in seven weeks. He was shot four times in the chest and stomach by the pillow passenger on a motor cycle which drew alongside him as he walked with a friend in Newtownabbey, north Belfast.

Mr McLaughlin came from a strongly republican family and was detained by police in

Castlebragh Holding Centre last week. His father, who was released from prison in 1977, accused the police of "setting up" his son who he said, had never been involved with any terrorist group.

A special unit is to be set up by police in Ulster in an attempt to reduce the force's high suicide rate. Nearly 50 members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Ulster Defence Regiment have taken their own lives since the present troubles in the province began.

In 1982 there were seven suicides, in 1983 three, and there have been nine so far this year.

Austin woman dismissed for strike assault

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Austin Rover yesterday dismissed a woman employee for allegedly assaulting three other women who crossed a picket line she was manning during the recent pay strike.

Two of the women were treated in the Longbridge plant medical centre and the third was sent to hospital with a suspected broken arm.

Mrs Sheila McGreavy, a sewing machinist, was suspended on full pay, pending an appeal, immediately she returned to work on Thursday, after the collapse of the two and a half week strike. A discipli-

inary hearing took place yesterday.

Reports suggest that the alleged incident took place on November 6, the second day of the strike. A handful of workers tried to enter Longbridge and found their path blocked by pickets, including Mrs McGreavy.

She at first remonstrated with three sewing room colleagues and when they ignored her, followed them into the factory and committed the alleged assault. The injured women made a formal complaint to the company.

Merit rank proposed for GCSE

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Distinction and merit certificates should be awarded to pupils aged 16 who do well in the new GCSE examination which is to replace O levels and CSEs, the Government will say in a consultation document to be published in the next few weeks.

The idea, which many believe is intended to allay the fears of traditionalists in the Conservative Party and elsewhere who mourn the passing of O levels, will reward candidates who get more than a grade C. The current O level grade C is the pass mark.

Those who get As and Bs in the examination to be introduced in 1988, will be given a distinction certificate, the document from the Department of Education and Science proposes. Those who get an average of C would be awarded a merit certificate.

To win a distinction certificate a candidate will probably have to have done well in about seven subjects. Three or four of these are likely to be compulsory: English, mathematics, science and a foreign language.

The consultation document asks whether a distinction certificate should be awarded to a candidate who gets an average of a B, whether they have two As as well, or whether they should have an average of a B and nothing below a C.

To win a merit certificate the document proposes three compulsory subjects, mathematics, science and English and some optional choices, and suggests an average of a C.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, says he hopes the certificates will be a further stimulus to excellence. Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, suspects that they are a way of introducing O levels by another name.

Mr Colin Vickerman, secretary of the Joint Matriculation Examination Board in Manchester, has similar thoughts. "It sounds like an arrangement which most of the examining boards would have argued against in the first instance, but if it is necessary to accept it as part of the package of reforms we will go along with it and make it work", he said.

Teachers strike

Teachers at Thorney Close comprehensive school in Sunderland went on strike yesterday because a boy aged 16 who had hit a woman teacher in the face was readmitted.

Drawing on the lessons of an 8-year reign

By Kenneth Gosling

The trouble with the British is that they have never taken art seriously, only as something to be practised on a wet afternoon. Which is the reason, according to Sir Hugh Casson, why we fail to produce very many outstanding artists.

It is, he says, chiefly attributable to our educational system and to our "non-visual" approach to life. Oxbridge people, he adds, are quite besotted with the written word. Art is regarded as "foreign".

At 74, Sir Hugh has retained his floridish of impish humour, with just 10 days remaining of his eight-year tenure of office at Burlington House, as president of the Royal Academy.

The next, and twenty-first president to be elected since the academy was founded in 1768, is due to be chosen on December 6. Sir Hugh decided to rule himself off the list simply because a new president has to be aged under 75 and he would only just have scraped in. He refuses to be drawn on the succession.

The president is chosen from the 50 academicians and about 90 members have the right to vote.

Sir Hugh is about to preside at a party to launch the Academy's new biennial, a £250,000 computerized system to control temperatures at Burlington House and, it is hoped, to cut fuel bills by half.

The president is, however, not too amused by the increasing insistence on rigorous humidity controls by people who lend paintings for exhibitions. "Before you know it we'll be showing pictures in steel boxes and you will have to look at them for five minutes at a time by candlelight", he snorts.

But he is well satisfied at the number of "plus" signs which mark his eight years as president. Attendances are up, especially among the under-35s; the "Friends of the



Sir Hugh Casson, with a favourite painting, William Etty's "The Sleeping Nymph and Satyr" (Photograph: Murray Job).

Academy organization has multiplied to a healthy 33,000; every summer evening next year is booked for private parties; and in the United States a fledgling support group is already attracting great interest. No exhibition at Burlington House is staged nowadays without sponsorship, and the Academy's £6m appeal fund had reached £4.5m and will be closed next year.

"We have zig-zagged between the black and the red but we are really now almost on an even keel and I am really very pleased with that", Sir Hugh says.

He is probably more pleased, in the aesthetic sense, that Burlington House avoids the "menace" that he feels disallows many people from visiting our art galleries and museums.

Strike village mourns its dead

From Rupert Morris, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire

Few events in the nine-months-long coal strike have been as poignant as the deaths of Darren and Paul Holmes, aged 15 and 14, who were buried yesterday in the South Yorkshire village of Goldthorpe.

Their friends from Dearnside Comprehensive School each lit a candle inside the star grey-walled parish church to commemorate their young friends, who died when a railway embankment collapsed as they were digging for coal, symbols of the communal efforts that

have kept the strike going and the desperate measures that families are taking in order to survive.

Hardship is increasing: the meal centres run by the miners' wives, which in the early days many miners could afford not to bother with, are now essential for survival.

In South Elmsall, two meals a day are served to men only. Single men get £3 food vouchers for the weekend. This apparent discrimination is in order to sustain the single men who get no social security benefits and

to enable the wives to use their weekly state payments for the rest of the family. At Mapplewell, near Barnsley, funds will only run to one meal a day, three days a week, again for men only. There are no food vouchers and all the union can afford for special cases of hardship is £170 a week, to be divided among 700 miners.

Doubly welcome, then, was the news yesterday that the Trades Union Congress via its affiliated unions, is to contribute £269,000 to the Miners' Solidarity Fund.



Mrs Jenny Holmes being comforted by her brother-in-law as the bodies of her sons Darren and Paul are carried into Goldthorpe Parish Church for the funeral ceremony. They died while digging for coal when a railway embankment collapsed.

Sale room

Music manuscript prices still booming

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The price boom in musical manuscripts continued unabated at Sotheby's yesterday where an autograph manuscript of the first movement of Schumann's "Phantasie" in C Major Op 17, sold for £88,000 (estimate £55,000-£66,000). It has been described as Schumann's greatest work for solo piano and dates from 1838 or 1839. The manuscript is a working copy marked for the printer and comprises 12 slightly dust-stained pages. The buyer's name was not revealed.

An important and hitherto undocumented manuscript of "Les contes de Hoffmann" in Offenbach's own hand and those of various scribes sold for £44,000 (estimate £45,000-£53,000) to another unnamed buyer. There are some 300 pages containing a draft of all five acts of the opera. The manuscript is datable to 1880-81.

The day's sale of manuscript material also included the typewritten text of General Charles de Gaulle's broadcast to the French nation on May 8, 1945, the day after the German surrender. It sold for £8,800 (estimate £9,000-£10,000) to C. J. Sawyer. The sale totalled £716,991 and with 15 per cent left unsold.

Christie's sale of important English pictures was also highly successful with a total of £3.3m

and only eight per cent unsold. Herring's animal paintings proved sensationally popular. A stableyard scene with two horses, a lot of poultry, a cat and a dog went for £172,800 against an estimate of only £40,000-£60,000. It was bought by H. Fritz-Denneville, a London dealer.

A newly-discovered Van Dyck portrait of Anne Carr, Countess of Bedford sitting beside a rock with a white rose in her hand was bought by Agnew's for £162,000 (estimate £100,000). The National Gallery of Scotland secured Peter Tillemans' "The Battle of Killiecrankie, 1689" for £11,880 Wright sale, page 10

Government faces tough battle over election law

By Our Political Reporter

A long and difficult parliamentary battle over changes in electoral law was heralded yesterday when the opposition parties declared that they would fight key parts of the new Representation of the People Bill, including the plan to raise the election deposit to £1,000.

The Government had been hoping to win a wide measure of all-party backing for the Bill, which was published yesterday, but Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, last night described the increased deposit as a "tax on democracy" and Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal chief whip, called it highly partisan.

Referring to the Bill's proposal to give the vote to British citizens living abroad, Mr Kaufman said it was unacceptable that tax exiles should be able to vote to decide what taxes people living in Britain paid.

The Bill, described by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, as a major contribution to the strengthening of democracy, raises the deposit from £150 to £1,000 but it cuts the threshold below which candidates have to forfeit the deposit from one-eighth to one-twentieth of the votes cast in the constituency.

It extends the franchise to British citizens abroad who have lived in the United Kingdom and been registered as electors in Britain within the previous seven years.

Its other main proposal is to extend the right to vote by post or proxy to holidaymakers. It will allow all absent voters to choose between postal or proxy voting and to vote at all local government elections as well.

Among the many other minor changes proposed by the Bill is to bring forward the close of polling on election days from 10 pm, the time which has been in force since 1969, to 9 pm.

Gales and flooding disrupt the South

By a Staff Reporter

Gales and driving rain brought flooding and damage to property in the south of England yesterday as well as incidents at sea involving rescue missions by helicopter and lifeboat.

Last night the London Weather Centre forecast little abatement in the high winds today but said there was likely to be less rain.

Ferry passengers endured some of the worst conditions so far this winter and hovercraft services from Dover to Calais and Boulogne were stopped. In some parts of the West Country hurricane force gusts were experienced.

Power lines were ripped down in the Welsh border counties, causing numerous power failures, and 1,000 homes in Herefordshire were left without electricity.

Off the Cornish coast distress signals were received at lifeboat and helicopter stations from a Swiss sail training ship, the pirate, with a crew of 10, and from a Western German cargo vessel, the Goltstrom, whose crew of six were taken off by a helicopter from RAF Culdrose. The Swiss ship was taken in tow.

More than 20 vehicles were involved in a multiple crash on the M4 last night as commuters battled through driving wind and rain. The accident was near the turnoff to Windsor and Slough.

In Bristol, more than 240 passengers on an Iberian Airway Airbus escaped when their plane overshoot a runway.

At several resorts, including Eastbourne, Brighton, Hastings and Bexhill, seafront properties were damaged.

Firemen rescued stranded people using boats when flood water rushed over the sea walls at Middleton-on-Sea and Elmer, West Sussex. Traffic along the seafront at Southsea, Hampshire, may be banned at the weekend because of likely flooding. Forecast, back page

Miners offered new lure to go back

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The National Coal Board yesterday announced a new bonus for working miners and those who return to work before next Friday.

Payments up to £175 will be made "on account", pending final settlement of the 1983/84 wage claim. Exact amounts will depend on the number of shifts worked since November 1, 1983, more than four months before the strike began.

The board's pay offer of 5.2 per cent to the National Union of Mineworkers was turned down, but management said yesterday that the new payments would be deducted from the final total.

Yesterday's announcement follows protests from pitmen who have worked throughout the strike that their Christmas pay packets will not be as big as

those who have just gone back.

The NCB had offered an additional £1,200 lump sum, which included holiday pay, to those who return to work.

Yesterday was the last day miners would qualify for the money before Christmas. Yesterday's inducement was meant to placate the protests of working miners and maintain the back-to-work momentum.

In all, 941 strikers went back yesterday, bringing the total this week to nearly 6,000, compared with 5,016 last week.

Violent clashes in Wales

Five policemen were injured and a police van overturned during violent picket-line clashes in South Wales yesterday.

Five hundred pickets turned up to confront two miners going to work at Merthyr Vale Colliery, Mid Glamorgan. One arrest was made.

The cost board said that 117 men turned up to work in South Wales yesterday, an increase of seven on Thursday.

The cost so far of policing the miners' strike in Derbyshire is £21m. Each day costs £111,000, according to a report to the police committee.

● Tribune, the left-wing Labour newspaper, attacks Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader for his less than enthusiastic support for the miners' strike.

● Mr Arthur Scargill met the president of the Methodist Church, the Rev. Gordon Barritt, yesterday after his meeting with other church leaders earlier this week.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia £2.75; Canada \$4.75; Europe £2.00; India \$3.00; Japan ¥3,000; New Zealand \$3.00; North America \$4.00; South America \$3.00; South Africa \$3.00; Sweden \$3.00; Switzerland Sfr 3.00; Taiwan NT\$150; USA \$2.75; Yugoslavia Din 180.

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TK4

Leukaemia research gets most of £18m in Sainsbury bequest

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A windfall for medical research was announced yesterday in a bequest of Mr. James Sainsbury, a director of the food giant.

He left an estate worth more than £18m. The bulk of it will go to a fund to be set up in memory of Kay Kendall, the actress who died in 1959 of leukaemia, and it will be known as the Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund.

Mr Sainsbury, a director of company for 33 years, made the bequest because "he wanted to benefit leukaemia and this was given in the name of a great friend."

Mr Sainsbury died on October 24 at the age of 75 after a long illness. He had been chairman of the London Provision Exchange in 1958 and was appointed a CBE in 1960 for his services to the food industry.

Sir Robert Sainsbury, Mr Sainsbury's cousin and joint owner of the family firm, said last night that Mr Sainsbury and Miss Kendall were of the same generation and were

friends before Miss Kendall's death.

Sir Robert said: "He has chosen to leave the money in memory of a friend who died of leukaemia which seems a very normal and natural thing to do."

Sainsbury's described Miss Kendall as a "great friend" of Mr Sainsbury's.

A Leukaemia Research Fund exists at Great Ormond Street in London. That was created in 1960 on the initiative of parents of a child who died from the

illness in the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. The fund has spent £17m of research and development of new treatments.

Mr Douglas Osborne said for the existing fund at Great Ormond Street of the Sainsbury bequest that "new help of this kind for leukaemia research can only be of enormous benefit. We would be happy to help set up a Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund, and I will be writing to Mr Sainsbury's executors."

Most of the support for leukaemia comes through the Leukaemia Research Fund, the Cancer Research Campaign and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

They are members of a Medical Research Council cancer coordinating committee to ensure a common direction of research, which avoids repetition or duplication of limited resources.

When Miss Kendall died she was unaware she had acute leukaemia. Her husband, Rex Harrison, the actor, kept the secret from her.

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Miss Kendall: Friend of Mr Sainsbury

Pathologist sticks to 'cot deaths' claim

By Colin Hughes

The pathologist who claimed in an inquest that one-in-ten deaths are caused by infants deliberately suffocated by their parents, yesterday said fathers had since confessed that they had killed their

Donald Wayte, who was cited by Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Security, in his "unfounded" inquest two weeks ago, said that he had also been

Wayte believes that a third of 50 per cent of "cot deaths" are caused by parents intentionally smothering babies.

He said that he had been cited by a confession in *The Sunday Times* that she had suffocated her child, aged nine

Doctors said it was a "sudden and unexpected" death, but Mitchell was reported as saying she wanted to confess to suffering unbearable guilt.

Rossiter nominated for Vest End theatre award

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Donald Rossiter, who died last month, had been nominated for the comedy performance of the year in the Society of End Theatre's annual

Rossiter died during an annual of Joe Orton's *Look Back in Anger*, which have been nominated for the Laurence Olivier award.

The awards will be announced on December 9 at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Women are afraid to travel on London's buses and underground after dark, riding to pressure group, women in Transport.

The group is to press London Transport for increased safety. In particular, they want a new kind of alarm

Tubes to protect women from assault between stations. The group will put those tubes to Dr Keith Bright, chairman of London Regional

Transport. Ms Sarah Veale, spokeswoman for the group, said: "The only alarm is the communication cord which is high up and difficult to

reach if you are being attacked. And the effect of pulling the cord is to stop the train immediately even if it is in a tunnel between stations, which is the last thing you want if you are being assaulted."

A recent GLC survey found that a third of women using London's buses and Tubes are afraid at night, and a fifth have actually been attacked or harassed.

The group wants a new alarm system that would be more likely to apprehend and deter attackers.

Ms Veale said: "The present system is really for mechanical faults rather than assaults. We

want something, say a waist height press-button, that will alert the driver without stopping the train, and enable him to call the police to the next station."

The women also want better lighting on trains and at stations where they say there are too many dark corridors.

The group also wants assurances that staff cuts will not reduce the number of stations below two: one to deal with tickets and the other to supervise the station.

Ms Veale added: "Women should not be put in a position where they have to stay at home."

Tea remains favourite hot drink

By Our Commercial Editor

A survey of the hot drinks market has found that people expect better quality as well as convenience from tea, coffee, and drinking chocolate.

The survey, by Lyons Tetley, looks at trends during the past five years in a market worth £850m a year.

Although tea drinking has declined to 3.5 cups a head a day against 3.67 cups in 1979, it still accounts for six out of every 10 hot drinks. Coffee is the fastest growing area, with ground coffee nearly doubling volume sales and instant coffee up by 17 per cent during the five year period.

The biggest growth in instant coffee has been in the premium products such as freeze-dried and granule coffees.

For every six cups of coffee drunk in 1978 seven are now consumed, representing an increase in instant coffee volume sales of 11.5 per cent and a doubling of ground coffee sales. Ground coffee now accounts for 10 per cent of the coffee sector.

Teabags now account for 64 per cent of tea sales, with teabag sales higher the further north one goes. In Scotland teabags account for 78 per cent of the tea market, and in the North 70 per cent of the market.

The South remains more staunchly committed to packet teas but in the past five years the volume of teabag sales in the Southern television area has jumped by 50 per cent.

Wine box sales

More than five million people in Britain will buy boxed wines this Christmas, a 20 per cent increase on last year, according to a survey published yesterday.

Southerners will buy more boxed wines than people in any other part of the country.



Country look: Philip Somerville launched his spring collection yesterday with an array of soft pastels and combination of straw with poppies and feathers to evoke a country garden look.

The hat above is a fluted Perspex circle with poppy and costs about £100. On the left is a large rimmed black and white boater with egret feather and a price tag of £100.

The dominant colours were red, navy, white, black and cream, and pastels (Photographs: Suresh Karadia).

Cloud blamed for RAF deaths

A Canberra jet crash off Gibraltar in which three RAF officers died was probably caused by the pilot becoming disoriented in low cloud, an inquest heard yesterday.

If he had done this the plane's direction would have become a descent towards the sea, said Operations Commander Michael MacKenzie of RAF Wyton, Cambridgeshire.

Commander MacKenzie told the Swindon inquest that pilot training courses had been changed as a result of the crash which happened shortly after

take-off from Gibraltar on August 3 last year. The precise cause of the accident was not known.

Verdicts of accidental death were recorded on the pilot, Flying Officer William Hunter Edward, aged 24, from Aberdeen, and Flying Officer Andrew Beynon, aged 22, of Bristol, and Flight Lieutenant Peter Ford, aged 42, a married man from Pontefract, Yorkshire.

They were in a three-engine aircraft group which had started a return trip to their base

at RAF Wyton. Commander MacKenzie said Air Force experts investigated the wreckage but could find no faults. The plane had climbed to 180 feet when it started to descend.

Commander MacKenzie said the dangers of disorientation were being given extra emphasis throughout the RAF. Cloudy weather may have given the pilot the impression the plane was pitching upwards. He would automatically move the plane down, thinking it was ascending at the correct rate.

Cycling helmets too weak, survey says

The craze for BMX cross-country bicycles is putting children at risk through inadequate crash helmets, an accident researcher said yesterday.

Half the helmets tested gave no protection against falls that could cause skull fractures or concussion or other fatal or serious injuries. The most

expensive were among those giving the least protection.

Now the West Midlands consumer protection committee is to press the government to create safety standards.

The tests were carried out by Dr Murray Mackay, head of the accident research unit at Birmingham University. His re-

port shows that seven of 14 helmets did not meet the safety standards of horse-riding hats.

Five of the seven that failed the test would have transmitted blows of sufficient force to cause fatal or serious injury, and the other two transmitted enough force to cause con-

Fowler says 'renting a womb' may be illegal

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Commercial surrogate motherhood may already be illegal in Britain, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, told the Commons yesterday.

He warned anyone thinking of getting involved in a "rent-a-womb" agreement, where a woman is paid to bear a child for a childless couple, that they could be open to prosecution.

"There are at present provisions under the Adoption Act, 1958, which provide criminal sanctions against payment for the transfer of custody of a child with a view to adoption."

The Government is considering how far these provisions would apply in relation to commercial surrogacy and what further clarification of the law would be desirable.

Mr Fowler, who was opening a debate on the Warnock committee report on human fertilization and embryology, was cheered by Conservative backbenchers when he spoke about the report's recommendation to outlaw the provision of surrogacy services by agencies or individual health professionals.

Commercial surrogacy, with children costing about £20,000, is a growing business in the United States, while a centre for surrogate parents has been set up in Surrey and some British women have become "stand-in" mothers.

Although existing legislation may technically make "rent-a-womb" services illegal, the Government, which clearly supports the Warnock proposal, is likely to want to tighten up the law.

However, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, told MPs when winding up the debate that drafting new legislation could prove "very difficult".

Although the Government will not announce its response to the Warnock report until next year, Mr Fowler announced that he was considering taking action to widen the supervision of fertility treatment and embryotechnology in advance of possible legal controls.

Tour firms switching to cheaper hotels

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Package holiday tour operators are using many more lower-priced hotels and some could prove to be a nasty surprise for holidaymakers.

The warning was given by Mr Paul Foster, consumer products director at Hogg Robinson Travel, which has produced a recommended resort and hotel guide. The guide surveys 1,500 hotels and 61 are not recommended.

Mr Foster said: "Next summer tour operators are introducing many more budget hotels which they have never done business with before. The tour operators have no experience of working with them so the travelling public have no background knowledge of them. It is more important than ever for holidaymakers to have the opportunity to check out what they are going to get on any holiday and avoid nasty surprises."

Mr Foster said that four operators are being forced as a result of rising prices to find ways of cutting holiday costs. Some of the lower priced hotels appeared to be contracted for price reasons alone.

He added: "It is the mixed quality of the hotels which has concerned us. Some of the hotels are very good and because they are economical represent excellent value for money. But while one hotel may be fine its neighbour might not, probably because there has been little investment to keep up standards."

Since the Hogg Robinson guide first appeared some of the hotels criticized have improved, 16 per cent of those initially not recommended now meet with the guide's approval.

But this year's guide is still scathing about some hotels. One hotel on the Costa Brava is described as reminiscent of a cat's home, and a Majorca hotel's lounge resembled a waste paper or plastic bag recycling plant. At another it gives a warning about pimps and prostitutes.

This year's guide looks closely at safety in hotels. It can be inspected at Hogg Robinson travel agencies.

Hospital forced to transfer cancer cases

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Service Correspondent

Kingston Hospital in Surrey has had to pay a private hospital to take urgent cancer cases after its sterilizing equipment broke down for the third time in seven months.

Mr Jim Chalmers, administrator at the hospital, said other National Health Service hospitals "were so busy with their own work they simply could not take them."

Kingston Hospital has had to cancel emergency admissions and about 200 waiting list cases, and has even had to defer about 50 urgent cases, including some with suspected cancer, after repeated faults in its autoclave system, which supplies sterile equipment for operations.

Some patients have been transferred to NHS hospitals, but Mr Chalmers said eight had gone to the private St Anthony's Hospital in Chesham to be

operated on by surgeons from Kingston.

Other hospitals had not been able to provide Kingston with enough sterile supplies to keep going "because nobody has much spare capacity."

Mr Paul Jarrett, consultant surgeon at Kingston, said cases transferred to St Anthony's had included patients with bowel and bladder cancer "who we felt had to be dealt with very quickly."

They had gone there because the hospital could not find anywhere else to take them. "We are very tight for beds and everyone else is. There is not the leeway we had a few years ago," Mr Jarrett said.

The hospital was managing to produce some sterile packs and surgeons hoped to clear a backlog of about 50 urgent cases next week.

Fairground man's theft spin-off

A fairground worker picked up a lucrative spin-off from his job on the waltzers, a court heard yesterday.

Raymond Vallance, spun his customers round so fast that the centrifugal force pulled their wallets and loose change out of their trouser pockets. Then he took the cash out of the cars before setting up the next customers.

Mr Trevor Kent-Jones, for the prosecution, told a judge at York Crown Court: "In addition to spinning his customers, the waltzer also proved to be a regular money-spinner for Vallance."

He added: "The motion of the machine spun wallets out of the trousers of customers and as they staggered away from the device the last thing on their minds was to check their pockets."

Vallance, aged 31, of Dawson Road, Barnard Castle, co Durham, admitted three theft charges. He was arrested after one customer realized he had lost his wallet and returned to the waltzer at Harrogate, North Yorkshire, last summer.

Vallance told the police: "Everyone is at it. It is one of the perks of the job."

Judge Raymond Dean, QC, jailed him for six months.

Death of peer who lost a stolen fortune

Lord Spens, who squandered a stolen fortune on gambling, died in his sleep at the Royal Commonwealth Club, in London on Thursday night.

Lord Spens, aged 70, who sat on the cross benches in the House of Lords, was an accountant and Queen's Counsel. He was convicted of stealing £151,000 from the Federation of British Carpet Manufacturers, of which he was director.

He was jailed for two and a half years in 1974. The court was told that the year before he had "reluctantly" inherited his

title.

The change, designed to

make Guernsey coins more marketable to collectors, will take place with the issue on April 1 of a new set of seven coins depicting local industries.

The Queen's effigy will be the new design by Raphael Maklouf which is to be used on British coins from next year.

Bank of Ireland
announces that with effect
from close of business
on 26th November 1984
its Base Rate for lending
is reduced from
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Bank of Ireland

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Happy Christmas and thank you.



Rich and famous blamed by judge for spread of cocaine

The use of cocaine by the wealthy, intellectual, and influential sections of society helps to perpetuate the false elitism that accompanies its use, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, said in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

He said it was time to dispel the myth that cocaine was merely some sort of social aid that was non-addictive. He gave a warning that the illicit drug was on the increase and that the courts would do all they could to prevent that upward spiral.

Lord Lane, sitting with Mr Justice Skinner and Mr Justice Otton, dismissed an appeal by Wilson Martinez, aged 41, a Colombian national of Beckton House, Kennington, south-east London, who was jailed for four years by Judge Stabile at Southwark Crown Court on June 13.

Lord Lane said that any idea that those who trafficked in cocaine or LSD should be treated more leniently than heroin traffickers was wrong. Cocaine, he said, had apparently retained an appeal to the wealthy, the influential and the intellectual.

He added: "It is that type of user who has been responsible for perpetuating the false elitism which accompanies its use".

The judge said that one expert witness had stated that cocaine was potentially the most lethal drug of the 1980s.

"Unhappily, the abuse of cocaine has not been confined to that particular section of society. With the increased availability of the drug, all sections of the community now have access to it and are in danger of being tainted by its compelling addictive qualities".

The judge described the production of the drug in South America, the relatively small percentage of its use for pharmaceutical purposes, and the saturation of the drug in the United States.

He gave a warning that Canada and Europe were the new targets for the expansion of the illicit market in cocaine.

He said cocaine abuse in the United Kingdom was in its infancy, but increased quantities seized suggested that an upward spiral had begun. The number of seizures in the UK rose from 400 in 1982 to 700 in 1983.

The actual amounts seized were 100kg, which was five times the amount seized in 1982 and more than twice the previous peak of 40kg in 1980.

Law Report, page 34

Secret ballot sought for parent governors

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Parent governors of schools should be elected by secret ballot, the Centre for Policy Studies, the Conservative Party think tank says, in a report published yesterday.

Its comments on the Green Paper issued in May, which proposed that parents should be in a majority on governing bodies, are designed to strengthen the position of Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, who has been criticized by teachers, parent and local authority organizations for his proposal.

The centre supports a majority of parents on governing bodies, but it would like Sir Keith to go further and introduce a voucher scheme. It says that only when parents are given more influence will standards of education and behaviour in state schools improve.

The centre's document also wants to see the Green Paper taken further. It says the election of parent governors should not be confined to present parents of a school but that two-thirds of those elected might be past parents or outsiders of standing in their local communities.

Moreover, it says, governing bodies should be given greater powers than those envisaged in the Green Paper.

Jenkin home

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, was discharged from The London Hospital, Whitechapel, yesterday, two days after a road accident. He sustained a broken wrist and a minor back injury when his chauffeur-driven car was involved in a collision.

Alfa lifts curb on car buying

Alfa Romeo has agreed to lift restrictions on British customers buying right-hand-drive cars on the Continent.

The EEC described the move yesterday as "another step towards the creation of a true Common Market in cars".

The company has told its distributors in Belgium and Luxembourg to remove all obstacles to orders for right-hand-drive models.

Prices and delivery dates must take "reasonable account" of specific costs and circumstances, and Alfa Romeo will honour all contractual obligations concerning guarantees and after-sales service for right-hand-drive cars bought in left-hand-drive markets.

The decision comes after an EEC Commission investigation into complaints from British customers who had difficulties trying to take advantage of price-savings on the Continent.

The company says a change in its commercial policy will even allow right-hand export models to be bought on behalf of customers by someone else with signed authorization and a copy of the customer's passport.

This cuts out the cost of a personal trip to Belgium or Luxembourg, another saving on top of the hundreds and sometimes thousands of pounds that can be made on most makes.

Maxwell may buy print plant

Mr Robert Maxwell, owner of Mirror Group Newspapers, is likely to complete a deal to buy the Thomson House printing plant in Witley, West Sussex, Manchester.

The plant, which is due to close at the end of next year, prints the national editions of Mr Maxwell's *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror*, the *Daily Telegraph* and *News International's News of the World*.

Hydrofoils to Channel Isles

The first hydrofoil service between mainland Britain and the Channel Isles is to open in Torquay in April.

The fare will be £45 return, cheaper than sealink's £58 Channel Isles return from Weymouth along the coast.

Ill in court

David Brookes, aged 38, unemployed, had a heart attack after a Chelseaham magistrate yesterday jailed him for a year for shoplifting. He was later "quite comfortable" in hospital.

Nyerere admits OAU can do little to ease African famine

From Michael Prest, Nairobi

Less than a fortnight after the Organization African Unity (OAU) said it would set up a special fund to help alleviate the famine sweeping the continent, President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, this year's president of the OAU, has admitted the OAU can do very little to help.

In an interview in Dar es Salaam, President Nyerere said: "The OAU can do very little. We can only say there is a problem. There are immense needs which cannot be supplied from Africa. They can be supplied only from outside Africa."

"Whatever Africa does will not answer the immediate problem. Certainly people are dying and they want a massive amount of food. I hope the international community has been sufficiently aroused to make the food available."

Turning to the problems of Tanzania, Dr Nyerere defended vigorously the Government's refusal to agree to loan terms laid down by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Negotiations with the IMF have continued for more than four years and foreign aid which Tanzania urgently needs has been blocked.

President Nyerere said: "We have been saying to them that they can't just write down the conditions and expect us to sign. No responsible government can sign on the dotted line. I can't just sign and have riots in the streets. We say how much will the people take?"

He maintained that, for a poor country, Tanzania has already gone "a long way towards meeting the need for austerity. But he declined to be specific about which IMF conditions he found unacceptable.

While holding out little hope of an agreement with the IMF in the near future, President Nyerere denied that the Scandinavian aid donors, who have been among the biggest providers of assistance to Tanzania, have refused to give more help until a deal is struck with the IMF. Britain's Overseas Development Administration gives £30m a year to Tanzania but has recently been wary of making further commitments.

Dr Nyerere was frank about his country's inability to feed itself. "Our problem is that our

farming is backward. It is very primitive," he said.

He rejected claims that state purchasing bodies did not pay farmers enough for their crops, which is one of the main points made by the IMF and World Bank.

He refuted a suggestion that Tanzania's poor agricultural performance was caused by the policy of setting up cooperatives, and sometimes by moving peasants many miles from their villages. He blamed the shortage of fertilizers and insecticides, brought about by the almost complete absence of foreign exchange.

Postmen to help Ethiopian appeal

British postmen are to help victims of the Ethiopian famine by delivering six million appeal envelopes free. Save the Children Fund envelopes, donated by the Envelope Makers and Stationers' Association, will be delivered to addressees in London and the Home Counties from early December. It is the first time such a delivery has been made free of charge.

● LONDON: A further £1.7m of emergency aid for drought victims in Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Central African Republic has been approved by Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development (the Press Association reports).

The money will be used to provide transport, drinking water, health and sanitation services and for supplementary feeding programmes.

SUDAN will get \$500,000 through Save the Children Fund, Oxfam and the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development and another \$250,000 through the League of Red Cross Societies appeal.

CHAD will get £250,000 for immediate relief and £200,000 for the League of Red Cross Societies appeal.

● GENEVA: The overall situation in Chad is fast deteriorating and food stocks are running out, Mr Paul Dahan, of the League of Red Cross Societies, said yesterday. He has returned from a visit there (Alan McGregor writes).

19 accused of Tanzania plot plead not guilty

Dar es Salaam (AFP) - Nineteen people accused of plotting to kill President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and overthrow the Government two years ago pleaded not guilty to charges of treason in the High Court here yesterday.

The defendants, 14 junior army officers and five civilians, will go on trial on or after January 21, Judge Anthony Bahati said.

Each is charged with conspiracy to kill Mr Nyerere, aged 62, to remove him from office, to overthrow his Government, and with failing to report the plot.

The charges allege that two people not before the court, Pius Lugugira, a businessman, and Muhammad Tamimu, an army commander, were also involved in the plot.

Mr Lugugira escaped from prison in June, 1983, and Tamimu was shot and killed in Dar es Salaam on January 7, 1983.

Mr Solomon Liani, the inspector-general of police, announced on January 21, 1983, that the Tanzanian armed forces had discovered a plot against the Government.

Panic buying in Sri Lanka as curfew is lifted

Colombo - Sri Lankans surged on to the streets and scrambled, in a panic, to buy food yesterday morning when the nationwide curfew was lifted. It was imposed after Tuesday's attack by Tamil separatists on Chavakachcheri police station, in which about 30 people were killed (Donovan Moldrich writes).

The curfew was enforced again last night.

The Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulathudeni, said the curfew had preempted the possibility of any backlash to the unprecedented loss of life in the attack.

The Government announced yesterday that 24 of the bodies recovered from Chavakachcheri police station had been identified as those of policemen.



United front: King Hussein (left) Mr Yassir Arafat, past differences forgotten, sit together at the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman.

Hassan rallies to Arafat

From Robert Risk, Beirut

The PLO's experience in Lebanon suggests that the latter is untrue, and the belligerency in the statements may well have been for Palestinian consumption. Nonetheless, it was said, and this will not help King Hussein. Nor will their rejection of UN Resolution 242 which the Jordanian king hoped would be the basis for negotiations.

The resolution refers to the Palestinians as refugees while the PLO wants to work on negotiations which demand a homeland for a national people. The critical and immediate issue, however, remains not the stated support of moderate leaders - all of whom also favour the Western powers, including the United States - but King Hussein's offer of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to regain the occupied territories. According to the Jordanians, the PLO would be represented by its own official in negotiations held under the auspices of the United Nations.

Many Palestinians fear that the "joint" quality of the proposal will weigh heavily in favour of Jordan and that, in the last resort, the PLO would be excluded from any decision making.

This is certainly the accusation of the PLO groups in Damascus, who have not yet condemned Arafat as a traitor but were claiming yesterday that the whole Palestine National Council meeting in Amman was illegal, on a ground that the necessary quorum of members had not been achieved.

Syrian newspapers said Mr Arafat had "falsified" names of Palestine members while Mr Khaled Fahoum, a Palestinian National Council Speaker who supports Palestinians in Damascus, insisted that 177 members had boycotted the meeting. Amman and that the necessary quorum could not have been obtained.

Mr Arafat's supporters claim that they have 257 members in Amman and that the conference is therefore legally constituted. Whatever may be said publicly in Amman or Damascus, the Palestine National Council is going to talk in modern languages, at least in private, most delegates are likely to support, however reluctant, Jordanian-Israeli negotiations for some form of return of West Bank, even if this does involve Palestinian sovereignty.

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Rabin to discuss military links on London visit

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The sensitive diplomatic issue of closer military ties between Israel and Britain is expected to be raised early next month when Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's new Defence Minister, holds talks in London with Mr Michael Heseltine, his British counterpart.

The trip will be the first made abroad by Mr Rabin since his appointment in the new national unity Government.

He is also scheduled to meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, for talks likely to demonstrate the improvement in Anglo-Israeli relations which was made during Sir Geoffrey's recent trip to Jerusalem.

Last June, after a similar meeting in London between Mr Heseltine and Mr Rabin's predecessor, Mr Moshe Arens, the Israelis confirmed that they had proposed that the two countries undertake the joint

development of weapons and military technology along similar lines to the cooperation envisaged between Israel and the United States.

According to diplomatic sources, the British were keen on the idea because possible repercussions in Arab world. But no immediate rebuttal was issued and official confirmation was not given until Whitehall said the scheme had been put forward.

The disclosure of the long suggestion annoyed officials on both sides.

Yesterday sources here refused to comment on a report in the Labour Party daily newspaper *Dawn* that Mr Rabin, a former Labour MP, Minister, will be pressing the issue, which was originally put to Mr Heseltine in terms without the mention of specific projects.



Cuba tries privatization to solve housing crisis

Havana (Reuters) - After 25 years of communism, Cuba has decided its chronic housing shortage can best be solved by almost total home ownership and a return to private letting.

A draft law just published and expected to be passed next month allows Cubans now

paying state rent - about half the population - to buy their homes from next July. They will continue paying the same amount, but as mortgage payments.

The law also marks the surprising legalization of a concept long vilified by the

Government - landlordism. Any house owner will be allowed to let part of his home for up to six months to as many as two families "at a freely agreed price with no need for previous (state) authorization".

"We have grave housing problems, many of them created by ourselves," said Flavio Bravo, the National Assembly President, said.

Most of the houses in Havana are in desperate need of repairs, while about 20 per cent of homes across the country have no electricity.

PARLIAMENT NOVEMBER 23 1984

The Warnock report

Government will listen

MPs widely divided on surrogate motherhood and experiments on embryos

COMMONS

The techniques which gave rise to the Warnock report on human fertilisation and embryology and the many difficult moral issues involved could not simply be wished away, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said when he opened a debate on the report in the Commons. The problems would not simply disappear. The responsibility rested with the House and with the Government.

The responsibility (he said) of this House and of society as a whole is to find some ground for agreement on the legal framework that will be necessary to control developments in this area in the future.

The Warnock committee had done a great service in setting out clearly and cogently the issues they should all address, but while the committee had reached detailed conclusions and made some specific recommendations it was essential to give the public the widest opportunity to express its views on them. It was not just a matter of deciding on each of those 63 individual recommendations. The debate went much wider and embraced fundamental moral issues.

On surrogate motherhood Warnock's view was basically that surrogacy was in general undesirable both on moral and social grounds

and where any commercial element was involved it was simply unacceptable. That was a view with which there would be wide agreement in the House and outside.

The committee recommended that commercial surrogacy should be made illegal and that was a matter on which the Government would have to decide urgently. It was considering how far the criminal sanctions provisions of the 1988 Adoption Act would apply in relation to commercial surrogacy and what further clarification of the law would be desirable.

He would listen carefully to what was said, and the Government would weigh not only this debate but also all the comments it received in response to the Warnock report before announcing its conclusions.

Mr Michael Mearns, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, (Oldham West, Lab) said it was not a matter of party political contention but ultimate issues that could only be determined, in the end, by individual conscience. He would, therefore, express his purely personal views.

This was the first generation in the history of the human race to be faced with such ultimate questions about the nature and status of the human being and about whether there was an absolute right to parenthood, whatever the costs.

The question of research on live

embryos was a religious and moral one involving consideration of when life began, what actually constituted life and whether it should be defined in physical or spiritual terms.

It seemed reasonable to him that, subject to a time limit such as that mentioned in the report, and so long as respect for human life was demonstrated by not allowing research except for the purposes of alleviating infertility or genetic disorder, then such research should be accepted.

The research should be controlled, closely monitored and regulated by a licensing body of the type Warnock recommended. Such work could help reduce incidence of miscarriages and information could emerge on how birth defects arose or how cancer cells became malignant. It might also help to remedy genetic disease.

He doubted whether it was wise to subordinate a precise time limit to a statute for fear it might be too rigid. Criminalization of experimentation when that might be an arbitrary time limit seemed inappropriate when the whole issue involved very rapid scientific change and called for regular review. Flexibility was needed and that could be built into the system without compromising control.

The whole idea of surrogate motherhood had been soured and abused by commercial exploitation. In his personal view surrogacy

should be banned unless a mother was disabled and unable to have her own child when it might be permitted on a non-profit making basis.

There should be no hasty legislation. But there was a need for action in the near future in certain

limited areas, such as outlawing surrogacy and banning the sale of sperm.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C) said the Warnock Committee had performed its task without first considering the nature of the human embryo. Embryos could be bought, experimented on, mutilated, frozen or simply killed.

Braine: Time to call a halt to this wickedness

The report (he added) fails to defend marriage as the only proper framework in which children should be conceived and brought up. You can look in vain for any reference to love.

The general effect of this report was excellent. He had not approached an issue in nearly 35 years as an MP with a greater sense of fear.

It was now known that the human embryo had all the characteristics of the human being from conception. Prompt action needed to be taken by Parliament to protect it.

It is quite likely (he went on) that experimentation of an improper kind is taking place now. It is time to call a halt to this wickedness and outlaw for good experiments on the human embryo.

Mr Leo Abse (Torfaen, Lab) said it was wrong for the possibility of *in vitro* babies to be available only to women going to private clinics in London.

He was profoundly concerned (he added) that women in Wales have the same right to have babies as rich women in London. The stand taken by Sir Bernard Braine and in the House of Lords should not be followed and it should not be full of hypocrisy, but a celebration. It should be remembered the agony endured by very large numbers of women who are infertile.

By what moral right did MPs want to stop research when

thousands, perhaps millions, of women wanted the joys of motherhood.

Those who were influenced by their Christian beliefs on this matter should historically realise the need for caution. The churches should bear in mind the phenomenon of the virgin birth.

He acknowledged a need for control on research but said decisions on these matters should be taken by a separate committee to that proposed by Warnock which would have a predominantly medical and scientific membership.

Sir Gerard Vaughan (Reading East, C) said research was moving ahead so fast that Parliament could not wait much longer before taking action so that there was some sort of monitoring.

The logical step was to accept that while the ova and the sperm had the potential for life, life really began at conception. It was therefore totally unacceptable to bank embryos or experiment on them, even in the first days. It was also wrong to indulge in surrogate motherhood.

There were areas of research now being considered which were totally against any concepts of a civilised society. The possibility was opening up of human-animal fusion, mismanagement and social disaster. Was it the same Government which gave far greater rights to laboratory animals while encouraging the abhorrent use of human beings?

All forms of experimentation and

one purpose have already rushed far ahead of what is acceptable.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft (Leeds West, L) said one of the areas where there might be much greater support within the House than on others was the question of the licensing of experimentation. He suspected that there would be support for the view that there needed to be a considerable lay element within such a licensing authority rather than risk being dominated by either the medical profession or other scientific backgrounds.

Mr Renée Short (Wolverhampton North-East, Lab) said infertility was a real problem that caused immense distress to those couples who suffered from it.

Many said it was wrong to experiment on a human embryo, but that was a matter for individuals to decide for themselves. Progress would not be halted, so inspection and regulation were important.

The recommendations in the Warnock report presented the basis of a proper scientific and legal set of rules and safeguards.

Mr Elizabeth Pearce (Batley and Spen, C) said if the Government did not act now it would merely encourage exploitation, mismanagement and social disaster. Was it the same Government which gave far greater rights to laboratory animals while encouraging the abhorrent use of human beings?

All forms of experimentation and

research should be limited and forms of *in vitro* fertilisation, even where a woman's ova were fertilised by her husband and then reinserted into her womb, should be banned.

If the Government did not act to go down as the administration which turned a blind eye to the questionable genetic tinkering, must intervene to make acceptable rules and end commercial exploitation of human birth.

Mr Jill Knight (Birmingham Edgbaston, C) said while it might be hard to be able to have a child would be a very bad law if it passed by tears for the barren. She legislated in favour of Warnock recommendations.

The time restriction on the use of human embryos would be impossible to enforce and much experimentation would go on.

The whole idea (she added) combining human and animal embryos is totally repellent.

Mr William Cash (Stratford, C) said the nightmare creation of a super race and with it the superman seemed to be ever nearer. Warnock would not the temptation for politicians to use the techniques of genetic selection to become more productive, unwanted surplus people? Parliament could not do this.

The debate concluded.

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Kremlin knew it had to

Somewhat confusingly, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party Leader, yesterday said Dr Georgy Arbatov, a Senior Kremlin adviser, has assured him the "umbrella talks" to be discussed at Geneva in January were a "continuation" of the previous negotiations. Mr Kinnock said he would clarify the point in his talks with

It is understood Mr Kinnoch will raise a number of human rights issues with Mr Chernenko on Monday. He has also emerged that the Labour leader sharply disagreed with Dr Arbatov, head of the USA Institute, over Soviet proposals for nuclear-free zones. Mr Kinnoch reportedly said Moscow was insincere, because it had no intention of allowing

areas such as the Baltic zone, where Russia has a huge arsenal, to become nuclear-free.

● **WASHINGTON:** Although the agreement to hold talks about talks clearly signifies a desire by both the superpowers to abandon the Cold War roles which, both have been playing for the past four decades, it emphasized yet again the Soviet position on missiles and nuclear weapons (Ashford writes).

It is unclear whether governments in the West will accept the Soviet position on missiles and nuclear weapons.

However, the most important aspect of the talks announcement is the fact that both President Reagan and President Konstantin Chernenko have placed their personal authority behind this new attempt to break the arms control deadlock.

**From Diana Geddes
Paris**

Although a number of Western member states share many, not all, of Britain's criticisms of Unesco, there are no signs of anyone else planning to follow Britain's footsteps, although

Two killed in German storms

SCOTLAND
FOR LIFE

**From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam**

Quebec split

FIONA FLORENCIA VARAS, Santiago, and Douglas Tweeddale, Buenos Aires

Austrian lead soothe Moscow

er hopes to row's fears

Russians stay in



From Peter Nichols
Rome

...ence and of Finance, and
ally to the cabinet.
...ence the choice of General
...dice, whose name was
...ong three in 1974, was made
...the Government as a matter
...ellical support" (1974, p. 10).


BANK OF
A FRIEN

From John Best, Ottawa

EXPERIENCED

FOR LIFE

Bucharest (AFP) - The powerful position of President

Executive Political Committee (Politburo) and his wife, Elena, number two in the regime. He was reelected. All those propositions had been widely predicted.

Mal 2.0; Palestine 1.0 Bahrain 3.0;
Urdu 3.0 Bermuda 1.0; Angola 4.0
duras Islands 0.0.

Men's standing after fourth round
et Union 14.5 points; England 12.5;
and Czechoslovakia 11.5;
oslovakia, Hungary, West Germany,
et U.S., Sweden, Bulgaria and
ce (A).

He insisted that apart from occasional family squabbles he had no kind of estrangement from his father.

Athens - Five bombs exploded in Central Athens early yesterday, injuring two passers-by. The choice of targets did not indicate the motives behind the bombings, for which an unknown group calling itself "November

The Athens police said they were baffled. Searches of the homes of left-wing extremists failed to produce any evidence.

Registered Charity number 276044

From Michael Hamlyn

in and out of combinations – what the Indians disgustedly call “*Aya Ram, gaya Ram*,” “*Rama (the god) came, Rama went*” – can be seen in every state of the land, but perhaps nowhere is it so well exemplified as in the far southern state

ment, the first popularly elected Communist government anywhere in the world. The independence movement in the state, which was made up of the former princedom of Travancore,

everybody except the Communist Party of India (Marxist) CPM, and splitting and reforming itself as politics at the centre has had its effects locally.

But perhaps the forthcoming general election shows the Kerala coalitions at their fullest

Party representing Christian aspirations, the Kerala Congress (M) and the Kerala Congress (J) (both initials stand for rival leaders).

Mr Karunakaran is holding out the carrot of an extra seat for a unified Muslim League

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY
and Gentefolk's Help.

of the state and returned in 1957 a Communist govern-

rate of literacy (just under 70 per cent at the last census).

Congress-led United Democratic Front is the more diverse

this election as a unified force
itself.

A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Four are killed in border shooting as Russian defects to South Korea

Seoul (AP) — A South Korean soldier was killed and an American soldier wounded yesterday at Panmunjom, in the demilitarized zone dividing South from North Korea, when a defector fled south and a firefight erupted, a United Nations Command spokesman said.

Three North Korean guards were also killed and two wounded in the exchange of fire.

The state-run Korean Broadcasting System said the defector was a Russian tourist guide.

The defector, who was said to have crossed the line and later to have been brought to Seoul, 25 miles south of the truce site of Panmunjom, was reported to have been with a North Korean-sponsored tour of the joint security area.

The UN announcement said the South Korean was killed and the American wounded not long before 03.00 GMT while taking defensive actions against an armed attack on the UNC side of the joint security area at Panmunjom.

"Between 20 and 30 security guards from the North Korean People's Army intruded across the military demarcation line at about 02.50 GMT, firing at an apparent defector from a North Korean-sponsored tour of the joint security area."

"UNC security guards took defensive action."

The slain UNC security guard was a Republic of Korea soldier assigned to the UN Command support group in the joint security area. The wounded guard is an American soldier. Their names are being withheld, pending notification of next of kin.

The command had requested that a security officers meeting be held "to preclude further incidents."

It was the first known shooting incident involving casualties inside the joint security area since the 1953 armistice that ended the Korean War, US military sources said.

There have been other incidents, however, and in August 1976, two US Army officers assigned to the security guard were shot and killed by North Korean guards.

Nine US and South Korean soldiers were injured in the incident.

Since the end of the Korean War, about 600 Americans and more than 400 South Koreans have been killed in incidents along the 151-mile long demilitarized zone, many of them in the 1960s, when tensions were at their peak.

The joint security area is an oval-shaped zone approximately 300 yards in diameter inside the demilitarized zone.

The zone extends a mile and a quarter on each side of the military demarcation line.

At Panmunjom some buildings straddle the dividing line, including the structure where meetings of the Korean Military Armistice Commission are held. Adjacent is the building of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, another element of the armistice agreement apparatus, where two meetings have been held this month between officials of South and North Korea in an attempt to open a dialogue and ease tensions between the two sides.

There was no immediate indication what effect, if any, yesterday's incident might have on future South-North talks. The next scheduled meeting was a session of economic experts set for December 5.

STATUS: Official sources said the Soviet defector was likely to be treated as a refugee even if he asks for political asylum in the US, in view of a precedent involving a Czechoslovak soldier (AFP reports).

A Czechoslovak soldier attached to the Armistice Supervisory Commission defected in October 1981, seeking political asylum in the US, but he was turned over to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Rome.

Soviet jets provoke Japanese

From David Watts Tokyo

For the second time in a month, Soviet planes violated Japanese air space and fighters were scrambled. The seven aircraft were spotted on radar about 5.30am and tracked by 34 fighters as they flew south over the sea of Japan.

Despite warnings from the fighters they flew through Japanese air space for three minutes and 20 seconds. Five of the planes were twin-jet Badgers, which would be used in an anti-shiping and strike role and which can carry both conventional and nuclear weapons.

Three aircraft acting as tankers, later turned back north, while two others headed over the Pacific.

Two big turboprop four engine bombers, continued south. These aircraft are thought to be used for reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering and are also believed to be used to pass on communications to Soviet Navy vessels deployed in the South China Sea and Indian Ocean. There is normally a complement of Bears and Badgers stationed at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam.

Most probably the Bears were heading for Cam Ranh Bay, but it is not clear whether they were reinforcements or replacements for the aircraft.

Party reform in China

From Mary Lee, Peking

Deng held back by a jealous old guard

The Chinese Communist leadership's ambition, it seems, is to replace many of its 40 million-old party members with "intellectuals", which in China means people educated in colleges and other higher educational institutions.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's effective ruler, is leading the attempt to redress the great damage which Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Cultural Revolution wreaked on "intellectuals" for nearly a decade. Progress, however, is slow despite Mr Deng's repeated calls "to respect knowledge and people with talent."

The People's Daily, the party newspaper, earlier this week quoted officials in the party organization department as saying that "leftist" thinking in the membership ranks and among party officials has not been eradicated. Consequently, while thousands of outstanding intellectuals have been recruited in recent years (that is, since Mr Deng ousted Mr Hua Guofeng

in 1980), many who applied for party membership years ago are still "locked out", the newspaper said.

The Economic Daily, which ran an interview with unnamed persons in the organization department, quotes them as saying that "factionalism, jealousy and fear that intellectuals would threaten the iron seats of party functionaries were obstructing the recruitment of intellectuals."

Mr Deng himself has said that the most important aspect of the Central Committee's "decision on reform of the economic structure", adopted last October, was the one calling on the party to "promote a new generation of cadres and create a mighty contingent of managerial personnel for the socialist economy."

Tens of thousands of "intellectuals" are needed if the economic reforms are to be carried out successfully, it stated. The decision calls for the reshuffling of leadership in enterprises and factories

The reforms, which begin in January, are to be completed in five years.

Recent newspaper commentaries clearly indicate that party functionaries in many quarters do not share their leaders' enthusiasm either for economic or party membership reforms. They get by with doing less than circulating the new directives in their units — a practice which the reformers call "formalism" and which the party's General Secretary, Mr Hu Yaobang, and the Prime Minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, have criticized.

Threats of disciplinary action have been made in an effort to call a halt to such "bad habits". While the old guard's jealousy and fear, if not resentment at being cast as "incompetent", are probably the main reasons behind the recruitment problems, their elimination will not be easy. The leadership also has to contend with party hardliners who feel that the reforms are thinly-disguised capitalist trends.

Turncoat rebels terrorize 30,000 in Philippines

From Keith Dalton, Manila

More than 30,000 people have fled a southern Philippines town in the past week, ordered out by a group of former Muslim rebels — now supported by the Government — who have been terrorizing the community, local officials said yesterday.

About 2,000 of the refugees have set up a makeshift camp of makeshift tents in the heart of Davao City, 580 miles south east of Manila, and are refusing to return to their homes despite military assurances of protection.

They complain that the town of Mandug, 10 miles north of Davao, has become a ghost town, with fewer than 400 residents, since 200 heavily armed members of the self-styled, People's Liberation

with official blessing to fight communist rebels in the area.

The PLO is headed by Abdurakar Kadato, a former Muslim rebel who surrendered last year and was assigned by a local military commander to organize 5,000 Muslims into a paramilitary force, trained and equipped by government troops.

Since August the PLO's vigilante-style efforts have been concentrated on Mandug and surrounding areas known to be heavily infiltrated by guerrillas of the New People's Army, the military wing of the outlawed Communist Party.

Mandug sits amid a big banana plantation and local residents suspect the owners provide the PLO's payroll to secure the services of an officially sanctioned private army.

Caroline Moorehead captured the elusive writer and naturalist

Gerald Durrell at his zoo in Jersey

Hairy frogs and other animals

With the day of publication of his twenty-seventh book rapidly approaching, Gerald Durrell was not to be found. He was in the Caucasus, filming the return of a bison, bred in captivity near Moscow, to its native pastures a thousand miles away. With an almost unbroken succession of best-sellers behind him he has developed a certain disdain for publication dates, reporters and all the paraphernalia of self-promotion.

Just in time, however, he resurfaced in Jersey, his home and, more importantly, that of his zoo for endangered species, for the last 25 years. Not that he will be there for long. After he has checked on the health of his animals and inspected their new offspring, discussed improvements to the property with the architect and looked in at the residential school for foreign-conservation students he has recently opened in a neighbouring farmhouse, he will be off again, pursuing an extremely pleasant if exhausting existence split equally between his travels, his television films, Jersey and a house near Nimes, bought 15 years ago from his brother Laurence "after he hit the jackpot with *The Alexandrian Quartet*".

At 59, Gerald Durrell is a round and flamboyant figure, with bushy white hair and beard and a style of speech as racy as his writing. The small boy whose tentative, naturalist obsessions so delighted readers of *My Family and Other Animals* is now assertive and inescapably reminiscent of Father Christmas in appearance, but no less passionate about beetles, bats and lemuris. His immediate preoccupation is not the new book, *How to shoot an amateur naturalist* (about a television series, due to be repeated in January), but the Russian venture, "I got about 20 letters a week from Russia", he says. "We never see anything on television except pictures of Red Square. I want to show the real Russia, the little old lady in the high-rise flat in Moscow with her marmoset." After this will come the book of that

series, then another about the trip. And then, with luck, China.

How did it all start? Gerald Durrell has always insisted that he had no education of any kind. "My father, who was a civil engineer in India, died when I was two. We were in Corfu between 1934 and 1939, when I was 14. After that I simply had eccentric tutors and all they taught me was how to deal with eccentrics."

After a year as a student keeper at Whipsnade Zoo, he used a small inheritance to pay for a series of collector's trips to South America and Africa, to bring back rare animals for zoos. "But it was all too much like the white slave trade. Packing 25 parrots inside a small cage. I had no stomach for it."

Writing it all down instead, he says, was born quite simply of one thing: "Poverty. I put on the radio one day and heard a man talking about Shanghai. It was appallingly read and appallingly written. I thought: I can do better. I sat down and wrote a 15-minute talk on capturing hairy frogs in Cameroon — and the BBC gave me 15 guineas. It was money beyond my wildest dreams. So I did more."

And then, promoted as ever by his brother Laurence, 13 years his senior, he was off. Almost a book a year: in 1954 he was in Guyana, looking for 14-foot long caymans and humming birds; the following year it was Paraguay and crab-eating raccoons, then Cameroon again and a black-footed marmoset. If reviewers could be dismissive, calling his broadly humorous adventures trivial and written with a "pretty wit" rather than with due regard for scientific accuracy, they won him fame and readers in numbers surpassed perhaps only by James Herriot.

It was on the strength of two successful books that in 1958 he borrowed £25,000 from his publisher, Rupert Hart Davis, to start his zoo. "I wanted it to be somewhere around Bourne-mouth, but I met with such mentally retarded attitudes."

Television

"Of course, when you are out in the hinterlands, you aren't supposed to have any culture," explained the American architect Bruce Goff, the subject of last night's *Arena* (BBC-2).

Goff, who died in 1982, lived, learned his trade, taught architecture and built houses almost exclusively in the mid-West of America. His clients were largely average, middle-class Americans — a Minnesota turkey farmer, a banker, a hard-up lecturer who wanted a house for himself. Bruce Goff's buildings, adorned with landscapes which appeared as dull and featureless as the puritan of Heathrow Airport.

From this unpromising background developed an extraordinary vision of the family home. Although Goff built his first cathedral at the age of 22, the houses he created for individual clients were the most startling of his creations. These homes have roofs winged like those of Buddhist temples, or pitched steeply like an Indian temple. In Goff's houses the walls are carpeted — inside and outside in some cases, windows are curved, slanting, triangular, asymmetrically paneled or pierced by lozenge-shaped insets which prove, on close inspection, to be glazed with dime store ashtrays. Goff also used industrial glass waste, marble off-cuts, old aircraft components, sections of hanger, steel cables and chunks

of virgin rock to build his lavishly decorated creations.

The creator of these bizarrely beautiful dwellings was a soft-spoken, silver-haired man who seemed modestly amused by the notoriety of his work, and who lived in a typically dull, featureless, small-town, Oklahoma bungalow. The interview with Bruce Goff was recorded some years ago by *Arena*'s producer, Alan Yentob, who stumbled on his work during a trip to America and recruited a local crew to shoot some footage without delay.

This original material was technically patchy, and so the project was shelved until Bruce Goff's work began to be reevaluated after his death. Charles Chabot, the director of last night's revelatory programme, added new interviews with the architect's contented clients to a compilation made from the original footage.

Arena called Goff "an authentic subversive", which seems slightly over-the-top as a description. There is a touch of Schöner Inn extravagance about some of the more bizarre designs, and the impression of a gift developed obsessively in cultural isolation hangs about them. Nevertheless, the programme was a fascinating introduction to a talent which had hardly travelled outside America's heartland.

Celia Brayfield

Concert

LPO/Haitink Festival Hall/Radio 3

Whether spurred by those disputed memoirs or not, there has been a lot of angst about in Shostakovich performances recently, which was why Bernard Haitink's sanity on Thursday night was so refreshing, even joyous. The symphony was the Sixth, one of the shortest but by no means the least perplexing, since fully two-thirds of it is occupied by the opening slow movement, to be followed by two blazing *f*erocious. There is no centre to the work, which for the most part the symphony begins in profound perturbation, the shrieks in alarm and shrieks again.

Mr Haitink was having none of that. For him the first movement was not an emotional adagio but rather a slow introduction, always moving forward to a firm but quietly stated pulse, even when its texture turns to an instrumental solo, and always looking forward to this. This was most persuasive. After all, the movement has the minimum of substance: just two themes, and even they are really one. It worked well as a long period of awaiting.

But after waiting for 20

minutes what should one expect? This scherzo was a surprise for the massive exuberance with which it was played, and his final presto an added delight for combining that exuberance with virtuoso high speed. The interpretation, though, was not necessarily positive. Mr Haitink declined to make any choice between sarcasm and jollity; instead he had the London Philharmonic disport themselves in an orgy of flamboyance and a circus romp, making the music live to its fullest, and leaving us to make up our minds about it.

The orchestra responded magnificently, with just one or two tricky moments in the scherzo that merely pointed up how closely they were steering to the edge. Wind solos were imaginatively played, and the harp made a fine splash in one breathtaking tutti charge in the scherzo.

A short programme was completed by a bright, spare reconstruction of Musorgsky's *Khovanshchina* prelude done by the Dutch musician Bastiaan Blomberg, and by a performance of Rachmaninov's Fourth Concerto in which Vladimir Ashkenazy played winningly, and well for this disappointing work.

Paul Griffiths

THE ARTS



Durrell: 'Boa constrictors coming out of our ears'

Jersey was more accommodating. In 24 hours he had found a perfect place, an old stone manor house with out-buildings and 24 acres of land.

The arrangement has benefited all equally: the zoo, with its intensive education programme and its exceptional collection of animals, draws many thousands of visitors to the island. Gerald Durrell and his second wife Lee, an American with a PhD in the behaviour of Madagascar lemurs, have a base, a sunny and agreeable full of books and sculpted animals brought back from their travels.

The purpose of the zoo, to preserve and breed species dying out in the wild, in the hope of reintroducing them eventually into their native habitat, is never lost sight of. Recently Durrell had the supreme pleasure of taking back and releasing pink pigeons in a botanical garden in Mauritius,

having bred 20 in captivity of a species virtually extinct eight years ago. "We also have Jamaican boa constrictors coming out of our ears like spaghetti."

Twelve years ago, Durrell had a difference of opinion with his trustees. It was to do with style, with the shape of things to come. Durrell pointed out that either they could resign or he could, but that there would not exactly be a trust without him. They resigned. Not long ago an old friend came to see the zoo. He inspected the magnificent cages full of greenery, the organically grown vegetables to feed over a thousand animals, the gleaming coats of the monkeys, the immaculate laboratories with their detailed case-studies, the easy-going and pleasant air of efficiency. When the tour was over, Durrell asked him what he thought. "I think it's a marvellous little dictatorship," the friend replied.

And if so, then what?

Theatre On stony ground

Keeping Body and Soul Together Royal Court Upstairs

Stephen Lowe is a good and experienced writer, but the Royal Court management could have done him and themselves a favour by asking him to take this piece away and think again. Strung together on a line of laboriously contrived misunderstandings, it tells the tale of an abandoned wife, Kate, who is digging a fallout shelter in her living room and making ends meet by selling her services as a pornographic pen-friend. It is late in the evening before those facts come to light, and by then your capacity to believe anything has been exhausted by the previous deceptions.

Kate is first seen struggling out of her excavating gear into a dressing gown to receive her lodger, Bob, who wants to borrow the room to receive a business visitor. Such is his tongue-tied embarrassment that she thinks he wants the room for sex.

Once that is straightened out, the visitor arrives; evidently a DHSS snooper sniffing out the secrets of the unemployed Bob's rent book and dropping hints that his landlady is running a luncheon-voucher bordello. Bob, of course, instantly swallows this story, which supplies fodder for more misunderstand-

ings once Kate returns. It might have been better if he had never rummaged his mistake; as his next move is to take her for a guided trip on the astral plane.

The plot momentarily sparks to life with the news that Bob once worked as a drainage engineer; thus giving them a shared interest in digging. But this development shortly caves in with an obligatory love scene interrupted by the return of the DHSS man who, lo and behold, is unmasked as Kate's vengefully estranged spouse.

There is plenty more along these lines; but it only goes to confirm the impression that Mr Lowe has set out to discuss various pressing issues, and that the lunatic effect is a consequence of shoe-horning them all into the same plot.

The tone of the piece swings between moments of quite promising farce, prolonged conversation, and strenuous shouting matches. Susan Todd's company opt for single-trait readings of these inertly over-written characters: Clive Russell's Bob meeting Philip Whitchurch's ponderously sardonic husband with hang-dog dejection; and Janette Legge flitting between them as a sharp, bright-eyed antagonist; all gripped in a steadily mounting sense of desperation.

Irving Wardle

Fringe language

Bringing It Home Cockpit

Two soldiers return from Belfast to find relatives arrested. Mark's mother is held after "a legal, peaceful picket protest against strike breakers". Errol (black) visits his brother in hospital after the police picked him up at the Notting Hill Carnival and left him with multiple rib fractures.

Addressing the audience intermittently from Armagh jail, a young Catholic tells her life story starting from the Crumlin Road Convict of Mercy during 1970s student days ("Seamus Heaney poetry readings and civil rights marches at the weekend") to the inevitable conclusion: "I've come to join you, sister Ulrike Meinhof."

She adds a potted history of England's reluctant involvement in a sarcastic vein: "We've got to do something about the Irish problem, so we're intervening, torturing and killing as

many as we can." Intercut with this is the political rhetoric of Mark's mother and his miner father, and Errol's brother smirkingly taunting a sneering constable.

These connexions are a familiar part of fringe theatre language and Seamus Finnegan's fresh, individual style is seldom in evidence. It does surface in, for example, Majella's reminiscent wonder at her family's first house with an inside loo or her bitter memories of being taunted as a "Teague", but almost our last sight of her is uttering the most chilling verb in the play: "The English Let ask why we did Brighton."

Still, Kirsten Soar (really going places after her Young People's Theatre Scheme debut), Peter de Jersey (Errol) tormented by a comrade's death, and the rest of the young company finely belie their "non-professional" status under Julia Pascal's direction.

Anthony Masters

Radio Paying the piper

Licence fee time is coming round again: how much is the BBC going to get, presumably for the next three years, and will it be enough? The trouble is that, whatever the amount, it is going to look like a lot to the payer or even, if it's to be anything like what the BBC wants, one hell of a lot.

This is what happens when the level of licence fee is set so far ahead. Back in December 1981 a rise from £34 to £46 (35 per cent) for colour TV and radio seemed a fair old whack, but unlike almost every other price it has stayed the same ever since and by now most of us pay with no more than the ritual complaint.

For next year and after, however, the amount will go up not just in line with today's prices but with allowance for how things are likely to stand at the end of 1987. You might think that with inflation so much less than it was and relatively steady, a smaller percentage would meet the bill this time round. But no — the sort of money that has been mentioned is in the region of £65, or 40 per cent-plus.

The chances that the BBC will actually get such a sum are probably about as good as they were last time, ie non-existent. Then the cry was for £50 or die, but when the decree was for £46 the only howls of agony were from the licence-payers.

As a spectator on the touch line — or as far as TV is concerned, at the back of the remotest stand — I hear tales of awful shortages, surgical economies, derisory salaries. Yet people do not go and join the enemy in regiments: Broadcasting House is evidently not a slum — indeed an opulent new palace is in prospect, programmes on radio and as far as I can tell, on television appear without gross evidence of financial malnutrition. In fact on BBC Radio there are actually more hours of broadcasting at the end of this triennium than there were when it began.

Nevertheless it is a possibility, I suppose, that sooner or later a sum that is truly less than it needs will impose on the BBC curtailments which the viewers and listeners will genuinely notice and that sooner or later the said viewers and listeners will not merely complain but adamantly refuse to pay enough to keep the show on the road. And if so, then what?

This question was the subject of last Wednesday's *Analysis* (Radio 4) when in *Paying the Piper* (producer, Anne Winder) David Winder set out to examine some of the alternatives to the present licence system. To the programme's credit, we came away without a sniff of an easy answer — indeed without any real answers at all, which is probably a very good evaluation of the circumstances.

The alternatives are few — advertising, sponsorship, grant-in-aid, and all three are fraught with dangers, though how far these might be realized in practice is another matter. So far as advertising is concerned, Saatchi and Saatchi believes there would be no difficulty in finding advertisers to take up space in the BBC schedules as they stand, whereas Michael Grade, Controller of BBC1 and a man with experience of both British and American commercial operations, sees spare capacity already and maintains that the advertisers' interest in mass audiences would be bound to push the BBC further down-market.

Likewise sponsorship, with grants-in-aid, the danger comes one of government interference, would politicians be able to resist bringing to heel the dog that has yet again nipped them in the ankle?

There are counter-arguments of course. So far as sponsorship goes, dozens of concerts and plays with little or no mass appeal manage to attract it. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation, which gave up its licence fee in favour of a grant, has, according to its European general manager, survived the change without threat to its independence. Yet Paul Fox, managing director of Yorkshire TV, declares that it has been destroyed — though what he meant by that he didn't, or wasn't given time, to say.

It is, of course, at points such as this that listeners become aware of how far they are at the mercy of incomplete information (even on *Analysis*) and of special pleading.

One comes away then from this kind of programme with the very strong impression that in the end changes will come not because anyone has made a balanced and realistic assessment of the alternatives and their effects — in fact, the sense of much that we heard was that such an assessment may truly be impossible — but because, out of the chaos, one kind of partiality (for what we've got for something different) will emerge, take shape and prevail.

We may have the best broadcasting in the world — few of us are in a position to judge — but how easy it is, and Richard Tracey, MP for Salford, did it last Wednesday, to cry "Complicity" and turn what may be the present system's major justification into a weapon against it.

David Wade

ADVERTISEMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE ANGOLAN HEAD OF STATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

*Handed to United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar in New York on Tuesday 20 November 1984
by Elísio de Figueiredo, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Angola to the United Nations*

His Excellency Dr Javier Pérez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation, New York

Mr Secretary-General:

I have the honour to address myself to Your Excellency to inform you of the steps taken by the Government of the People's Republic of Angola with the essential objective of guaranteeing the independence of Namibia, through the full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 435/78, achieving the withdrawal of South African forces from the south of Angola, securing international guarantees for Angola's security, independence and territorial integrity, and contributing to the establishment of lasting peace in Southern Africa.

As I stated publicly on 26 August 1983, on the occasion of your memorable visit to Luanda, the People's Republic of Angola has always shown its willingness to co-operate in the search for an adequate solution to the Namibian problem, thereby taking the first important step towards the establishment of the just and lasting peace we want for our peoples and the international community.

While ratifying the determination of the people and Government of Angola to continue to fight against the racist invaders, I reiterated our willingness to continue diplomatic action to seek a just solution, and I reaffirmed the following positions of our Party and Government:

1. The immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African forces occupying part of our territory;
2. The immediate implementation of Security Council resolution 435/78 leading to the true independence of Namibia;
3. The cessation of South African aggression against Angola;
4. The cessation of all logistical support for the Unita puppet bands.

On the basis of these positions, some of which had already been stated in the statement of the Foreign Ministers of the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba of 4 February 1982, and are also contained in the joint statement of 19 March 1984 of both governments, we have held both direct and indirect talks with representatives of the governments of the United States and South Africa, with a view to achieving the above objectives.

These principled positions put forward by Angola are a categorical rejection of so-called 'linkage' - rejected by almost every government in the world and by world opinion - which seeks to make the implementation of resolution 435/78 contingent on the prior or parallel withdrawal of the Cuban military contingent legally present in the People's Republic of Angola at the request of its Government and in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

On the contrary, the implementation of resolution 435/78 and with it the independence of Namibia, is a fundamental factor which, together with the cessation of direct or indirect aggression and threats against Angola and help from abroad for the counter-revolutionary bands, will make it possible within an adequate period to ensure our security and the subsequent progressive withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola, as stated very precisely in the above mentioned joint statements of Cuba and Angola of February 1982 and March 1984.

In the course of our talks with representatives of the United States held in Luanda on 6 and 7 September, we presented them with a platform for negotiations to be conveyed to the Government of South Africa, containing five points.

I here transcribe the full text of the said platform presented by the People's Republic of Angola:

1. The completion of the process of withdrawal of South African forces from the territory of the People's Republic of Angola and control by FAPLA of Angola's state borders.
2. A solemn statement by the Republic of South Africa in which it pledges to honour and to contribute to the implementation of United Nations resolution 435/78 on Namibian independence.
3. A ceasefire agreement between the Republic of South Africa and SWAPO.
4. A statement by the Government of the People's Republic of Angola reiterating its decision, in agreement with the Government of Cuba, to proceed with the start of the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist contingent, only when the implementation of resolution 435/78 is under way.
5. The signing, within the parameters of the UN Security Council, which would act as guarantor, of an international agreement between the governments of the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of Cuba and a representative of SWAPO, in which would be defined the respective undertakings for achieving Namibia's independence, and the guarantees for the security and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola and lasting peace in South-West Africa.

This agreement would consider:

1. United Nations troops having been established in Namibia, together with the UN authorities, within the prescribed period, the Republic of South Africa would completely withdraw its armed forces from Namibia, withdrawing first the air force and the units on the border with Angola, which would come under the immediate responsibility of the United Nations troops.
2. As soon as the air force had completely withdrawn from the territory of Namibia and there remained of the South African troops only one thousand five hundred infantrymen, Angola and Cuba would proceed with the withdrawal of five thousand Cuban internationalists from the troops grouped in the south, as a gesture of good will.
3. The Cuban troops would not carry out any kind of deployment of military units or any type of manoeuvre south of the 16th Parallel.
4. With regard to the remaining numbers of Cuban troops grouped in the south, they would be withdrawn to Cuba over a maximum period of three years.
5. If any act of aggression or threat of imminent aggression against Angola by South Africa were noted, the entire agreement would be suspended or annulled.
6. The Republic of South Africa would undertake from the very start to cease all support of the Unita bands, and the United Nations authorities would have to verify the dismantling of the Unita bases on Namibian territory.
7. The withdrawal of Cuban troops stationed in Cabinda Province and other regions in the north of the People's Republic of Angola, including the country's capital, would be programmed in accordance with a timetable to be established for this purpose by the People's Republic of Angola and Cuba.

As Your Excellency can confirm, the platform directly states the problems that must be resolved to secure the implementation of resolution 435/78 and, therefore, the independence of Namibia, as well as other steps to guarantee the disengagement of South African forces from our territory and the establishment of lasting peace in the region, which would create the requisite conditions to proceed with the disengagement of Cuban internationalist troops from southern Angola; all this, of course, within the framework of an international agreement subscribed to by all the parties concerned and guaranteed by the Security Council.

Subsequently, and as proof of the seriousness with which Angola is carrying out the negotiations, on 9 October this year we presented a text which complemented the platform and rigorously expressed our precise proposals with regard to the Cuban military personnel.

The full text of the document is as follows:

The People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba, in exercising their sovereign rights, and within the framework of Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, agree to proceed in the following manner in respect of the internationalist contingent of Cuban

troops, so long as the points formulated in the platform of the People's Republic of Angola for an international agreement on independence, security and peace in South-West Africa (Angola and Namibia) are accepted, carried out and respected.

First, on the grouping of Cuban troops in the south of Angola (ATS):

1. Within 24 months of the entry of the UN troops contingent for the implementation of Security Council resolution 435/78, the 15,000 men of the present line defending the south of Angola - Namibe-Lubango-Matala-Jamba-Menongue - will be withdrawn in the following manner:
 - after the 16th week, within a four-month period, 5,000 men.
 - between the 12th and 16th month, another 5,000 men.
 - between the 20th and 24th month, a further 5,000 men.

During this period, the Cuban troops would at no time cross the 16th Parallel, which is 160km from the Namibian border and 1,360km from the Orange River.

2. The remaining troops of the ATS, comprising approximately 5,000 men, deployed behind the said line, would be withdrawn between the 32nd and 36th month.

During that third year, these troops would at no time cross the 13th Parallel, which is more than 500km from the land border with Namibia and 1,700km from the Orange River. That is, as from the 24th month, no ATS unit would cross the 13th Parallel.

Thus, approximately 20,000 men of the total number of Cuban troops in Angola would withdraw in 36 months.

Second, on the remaining Cuban troops in Angola:

1. The remaining Cuban troops which have nothing to do with the defence of the south of the country, and no relationship to Namibia or South Africa, as pointed out in point 5-VII of the platform, would be withdrawn from Angola in accordance with an independent timetable to be agreed upon by the People's Republic of Angola and Cuba when the time comes.

These remaining troops would also at no time cross the 13th Parallel.

Angola and Cuba shall establish the dates indicated as the maximum limits for the ATS to stay in Angola, reserving the right to cut short those periods if security and territorial integrity so permit. In the same spirit, both governments, exercising their prerogatives of sovereignty, shall determine the moment and the appropriate timescale for the withdrawal of the remaining forces, once Angola's integrity and security are fully guaranteed.

2. Part of those troops are in Cabinda, which is 1,350km from the river border (the Cunene River) with Namibia and separated from the rest of the territory and by the Zaire River.

Cabinda is 2,550km from the Orange River.

Another part of this force would be in Luanda and the surrounding area (Bengo and Kwanza Norte). Luanda is Cabinda's rear, in view of the fact that it is only here that there can be the air and naval forces capable of going to the help of Cabinda in the event of aggression, as well as the ground forces which would be transported by air and ship.

Luanda is 945km from the river border (Cunene River) with Namibia and 2,145km from the Orange River.

Other units could be stationed in northern and eastern provinces and in strategic points north of the 13th Parallel which ensure communications and supplies to those provinces.

3. That is, the remaining forces would be very far from the southern border, and their mission, together with FAPLA, is to defend the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola against aggression from the north and north-east, and more especially against Cabinda, as has already happened.
4. The People's Republic of Angola does not have the organised manpower resources with the required educational level, or the available material and financial resources to wage a war against the Unita bands and other puppet organisations, and simultaneously to replace the Cuban troops and armaments at strategic points in the south, centre and north of the country. Angola has to give priority to fighting the bandits who, supported trained and equipped from abroad, have caused and are continuing to cause the country substantial human and economic losses.

At the same time, and if agreement is reached in the present negotiations, in only 36 months it will have to replace the strength in men and equipment of the grouping of Cuban troops in the south and assume responsibility for the installations and positions occupied by them.

For this reason, it is only after such replacement has been carried out and peace and internal order has been guaranteed, that Angola itself will be able to take on the tasks which, for the country's security and integrity, are performed by the remaining Cuban military personnel.

This will require time, substantial resources and a tremendous effort in the training of skilled and technical personnel. To demand more of our young State, after five centuries of colonialism, fourteen years of struggle for independence and almost ten years of fighting against foreign aggression and subversion organised from abroad, would reflect a lack of realism and a lack of consideration for our people.

Angola has given proof of its good will and seriousness in seeking peace.

Angola cannot make concessions which would be suicidal to its national integrity and its political and social process, forgetting the sacrifices made by tens of thousands of its finest sons and daughters.

Angola, Mr Secretary-General, has given proof of its willingness and seriousness in seeking peace, but it cannot accept an arrangement which does not take into account the criteria outlined here or which does not fully respond in a satisfactory way to all the issues related to the rapid independence of Namibia, the disengagement of South African troops from our territory and the cessation of all external help for the Unita puppet bands.

In other words, and reaffirming what is stated at the end of the complementary text, it is not possible either to demand or to expect of Angola concessions which would be suicidal to its national integrity and the development of its political and social process, and would mean forgetting the sacrifices made by tens of thousands of its finest sons and daughters.

Mr Secretary-General, conscious of the fundamental role played by the United Nations in respect of the independence of Namibia and the implementation of resolution 435/78, we consider it indispensable not only that Your Excellency should be fully informed of how the negotiations are going, but also that, at an opportune moment in the not too distant future, that your representative should take part in them, so that you may also make your valuable and necessary contribution to our efforts.

Finally, I should like to say to you, Mr Secretary-General, that Angola has carried out these negotiations in close co-ordination with Cuba and has its full support. At the same time, the leadership of SWAPO has also been informed about the evolution of the negotiations.

I should like to request of Your Excellency that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

Please accept, Mr Secretary-General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS

President of the People's Republic of Angola

David Butler

Hawke hogs the middle road

Canberra A spark of life has come into a flat Australian election. The protracted eight-week campaign had seemed the most boring for a generation, with the Labour government sauntering to a landslide victory.

But now the poll figures are shifting. A 57 per cent lead over the opposition's 43 per cent has narrowed in the latest survey to 54 per cent to 46 per cent. No one doubts that the charismatic Mr Hawke will triumph over the once-trendy Andrew Peacock, leader of the opposition. But the sophisticated Australian voter, exploiting the complexities of the electoral system, seems to be preparing a damper for his triumph.

The Senate is the trouble. In the single-member seats of the House of Representatives which decide the government, third parties have no hope. But in the Upper House, chosen by proportional representation, no party can nowadays expect a majority. Although the Labour Party and its Liberal/National rivals can each count on electing just under half the senators, there is always a question about who secures the final seat in each state.

In four of the six states, the Democrats, with only 10 per cent of the vote, squeezed in senators at the last election in March 1983, while in Tasmania a breakaway Labour senator won easily. This time the Democrats seemed to be heading for a repeat performance. But suddenly a new force has appeared on the scene. The fledgling, single-issue, Nuclear Disarmament Party stands at 11 per cent in the latest poll on senate voting, its strength almost doubled in a week. And its standard bearer in New South Wales, the rock singer Peter Garrett, is given 17 per cent, enough to romp home.

The intricacies of the single transferable vote system, with preferences switching as candidates are eliminated, makes the outcome in other states uncertain. But even if the "Nuke" vote comes below the latest indications, it will suffice to send shockwaves through the system.

The immediate trigger for the "nuke" advance was the election of the Lange government in New Zealand, committed to banning visits by nuclear-powered vessels. Mr Hawke's uncompromising resistance to any such policy for Australia brought to a head misgivings about his government. The nuclear issue arouses concern in many quarters, particularly among churches and women's groups. But above all it has served as an outlet for those who have been worried by the Labour government's relentless seizure of the middle ground.

Anyone accustomed to recent British politics must blink at the sight of a Labour government winning the plaudits of the business community with promises not to raise taxes or increase public spending, and with a firm commitment to cooperating with the United States in a nuclear-based Pacific alliance.

Such laudable goals would, win applause from every central banker in the world, but no Australian economist believes that they can be achieved. The economy is prosperous but it is not growing fast enough to cope with the costs of existing programmes. And the future is uncertain for a medium-sized primary-producing country. Particularly in rural areas, confidence about the endurance of the boom is limited.

Even so Mr Hawke, if he is not tripped up in his televised "great debate" with Mr Peacock next Monday, is striding assuredly to a new term. He has strong sense that his charismatic consensus leadership can guide this expanding, fortunate country up to its 1988 bicentennial and beyond.

Roy Strong

Still a wonder to perform

The earliest public lecture I ever gave was at the Victoria & Albert Museum in 1958. Crippled with shyness in the face of that huge lecture theatre, I held forth on "Pageantry in the Elizabethan Court Year". As the microphone was hung around my neck I began to get nervous of getting entangled in its wires. "Don't worry about that," the Keeper of Public Relations said, "just switch it behind you like a dower swishes her train." As soon as the lights dimmed and the slides began everything went swimmingly as one was oblivious of the audience. Afterwards an ancient couple tottered up to me and said, "Oh, thank you, thank you, it was so marvellous." I have never looked back since.

Over two and half decades on I can claim to have endured every form of triumph and tribulation that can be associated with this particular type of communication. I have turned towards the screen only to see the image upon it slowly melt and slide off (no cooler in the projector). I have turned up and found variants of no lecture, no screen, virtually no audience.

The projector has exploded. The electric plug has gone up in flames. I have been expected not only to lecture in pitch darkness but also push the slides through simultaneously. I once even gave a lecture in a nonconformist pulpit to be rewarded after by a cheese sandwich preserved beneath a glass dome. So exasperated I became at one time that a list of needs went ahead on a roneoed sheet. Even this did not work. Experience of the United States taught me that early arrival and dress rehearsal is the only thing that will.

Lecturing is the nearest thing an academic experiences to being in repertory as an odd branch of the performing arts. Over the years, like theatre, it depends heavily on repeats and revivals. At the university one noticed the yellowing edges to many a lecture script exhumed from the filing cabinet, much as one glimpses sermon notes from afar. My wife still cherishes one standby in my repertory. Called "Problem Portraits", it stood me in good stead for a decade until I had mastered every pause and inflexion. And I have never indulged in John Bejerman's standard practice of putting in at least one slide upside down.

Any form of questions from the audience after a lecture should be avoided. They invariably turn out to be a vehicle for the ill-informed and opinionated. One Saturday afternoon, lecture on Henry VIII at the National Portrait Gallery led to a disquisition on the virtues of vegetarianism (they all ate too much red meat) followed by "Everything was all right until that woman came along" - gesturing at a portrait of Anne Boleyn.

I see other people's lectures these days and certainly do not expect anyone to listen to mine. But looking back over the years stars do stick in the mind. A. J. P. Taylor and Sir John Summerson, with every detail exact. A. L. Rowse as a kind of Donald Wolf of the lecture circuit on the battle of Bosworth. Dame Frances Yates, living up to her claimed descent from the address Mrs Yates, beginning a lecture on the history of the art of memory describing a mnemonic image which included someone holding a goat's testicles, at which point she paused, threw her eyes heavenwards and mused, "A vivid image." Doris Langley Moore on her life with Byron, holding her audience enthralled from the opening anecdote in which she warded off the advances of a young man at her first dance by abruptly asking him, "Have you ever read *Childe Harold*?"

In a way, lecturing is to learning what acting is to the play text. It is a marriage of content with interpretative performance, and that is never ceases to be amazed how much the latter can triumph in the face of the absence of the former but never in reverse. Not without reason one sometimes emerges from these occasions recalling the words of an American professor to a student who had just delivered a paper on Edmund Spenser: "Little girl, you have said many new things, and many true things, but your new things are not true and your true things are not new."

It is still astonishing me that people actually want to go to a lecture for as a form of communication, it seems so premodern in the technological age in which we live. On the other hand, perhaps we ought after all to be grateful that, in spite of all the erosion by the media in the last half century, there is still something hypnotic about someone just standing there and talking.

Sir Roy Strong is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Shame about the pirates

Last year The Times serialised the third novel of Booker Prize-winner Salman Rushdie. His works have become international bestsellers - but not always, as he reveals, to his benefit

the bad old days, they had to reset in metal all the books they stole; and these copies were always jam-packed with errors. Such annoyances often persuaded readers to pay to be sure of getting a complete and accurate text. Nowadays, by printing photographically the pirates have managed simultaneously to reduce their costs and increase their accuracy.

There's only one set of circumstances in which I find it possible to forgive, even to support, the unauthorized publication of books. Where a book cannot be published legitimately, because of the repressive character of a country's political regime, covert publication loses the stigma of robbery and becomes, in fact, an important public service. I have recently heard that one of my books has been translated into the language of, and is being circulated in, a certain country whose religious censors would certainly never permit it to enter through the front door. I wish my unknown translators well. In this case, their work does feel like a kind of compliment.

When an attempt was made to pirate my most recent novel, *Shame*, in Pakistan things did not go smoothly. The authorities' attitude to *Shame* had previously been somewhat ambiguous. There had been no formal banning order, but the advice the publishers and I had received suggested that were the book to be sent to Pakistan its distributors would be at risk. As a result only a small number of copies had begun to circulate, until the pirates published their edition. This was put on sale in a number of bookshops in Karachi and Lahore. A few days later these bookshops were subjected to massive police raids. The police found nothing - but the copies had been quickly sold - but

they frightened the booksellers enough to dissuade them from stocking the pirate any more.

What this demonstrates is that, contrary to their protests, the authorities in countries like India and Pakistan can move swiftly and effectively against book pirates when it suits them to do so. The sad news is that it doesn't often seem to suit them. A couple of years ago, when the Pakistan pirates made the mistake of pinching the memoirs of Henry Kissinger, they found themselves behind bars in double-quick time. Most of the time, they are allowed to get away with it.

In Pakistan, indeed, the government has exempted the state publishing corporation from the international copyright convention: and where the state itself acts as a pirate, it is hardly surprising that small entrepreneurs follow suit. The government pirates mostly textbooks and technical manuals, arguing that the cost of the imported editions is prohibitively high, and that the educational system demands the piracy.

It is true, I believe, that many western publishers could, by licensing local, cheap editions, do much to remove the pirates' incentives; but it is also true that the unauthorized reissue of academic books, especially on such a scale, is a form of discrimination against a country's own academic community and its own potential authors. Such acts of piracy ensure, in fact, that the pirating nations' intellectual dependence on the West will be greatly prolonged.

India and Pakistan are among the world's worst offenders against the laws of copyright. The problem extends to the sphere of journalism as well. I think I can safely predict

that this article will appear in a Pakistani and/or an Indian newspaper before too long, without so much as a by-your-leave. Such journals know how inconvenient it would be for the copyright-holders of stolen material to sue, how expensive, how time-consuming, and how small the likelihood of any kind of punitive damages, being awarded in the end. And in India as in Pakistan, the authorities have done little to disabuse the pirates of such notions.

But now that a far more valuable commodity, videotape, is also being pirated on a grand scale, tougher laws are beginning to be framed and it may be that books will eventually benefit. The mere passing of a law, however, is not enough. It is also necessary for the enforcers of the law to demonstrate that they mean business, that they have the will to make the law stick.

Until that happens, the pavement outside the Regal Cinema in New Delhi will go on being covered with openly displayed illegal editions: pirated ideas, pilfered imaginations, contraband knowledge. Perhaps, if readers' livelihoods could be stolen as easily, they would find it easier to understand the rage a writer feels when he sees such displays and perhaps then it would be easier to resist the stolen goods.

Here in Britain, at least, there are no pirates. Or are there? The literary piracy practised in countries like India and Pakistan makes books cheaper, and therefore available to a wider public, by the simple method of fleecing the original author and publisher. The proposed imposition of VAT on books will certainly do great financial damage to publishers and authors; and it will also make books considerably more expensive, and thus rather less accessible. Which one is compelled to wonder, is the greater evil of the two? I leave it to readers to decide.

Salman Rushdie 1984
Shame by Salman Rushdie was published legally in paperback yesterday by Picador, price £2.95.

Gordon Burn meets the reclusive Willem de Kooning

White canvas in a private view

New York Willem de Kooning's needs have always been simple. When at the age of 64 he visited London for the first and only time, many years ago, and was asked what he most wanted to do or see, he requested just one thing: to meet Francis Bacon. Bacon by that time, like de Kooning himself, was numbered among the select group of twentieth-century revolutionaries - including Matisse, Picasso, Leger, Klee, Soutine and Miro - whose ambition had been to achieve images of the human figure that would bear no reference to outdoor art-historical conventions.

From the early 1950s on, this had meant screaming, writhing, purporting male specimens in Bacon's case, and fierce, fleshy, no less alarming images of women in de Kooning's. The London meeting, potentially tricky, passed off amicably, with de Kooning resisting the temptation to keep up with Bacon to demonstrate his own near-legendary capacity for drinking. But arguments continue to rage in Soho and SoHo watering holes to this day as to which of the two can most justly claim the title of the world's greatest living painter.

The encounter with Bacon, at the tail-end of the 1950s, was arranged by de Kooning's friend and dealer of many years, Xavier Fourcade, who attends to every detail of his existence.

It is almost entirely due to his dealer that "Bill" de Kooning, at the age of 80, finds himself an immensely wealthy man. Three days before our visit, a 1953 painting of his called "Two Women", measuring only 22in by 28in, had sold for \$1,980,000 at Christie's in New York, setting a new record for postwar art. Only the day before, a private collector had paid \$1m for three of his most recent paintings, sight-unseen.

In the last eight years, during which he has forsaken the two-week "benders" which have punctuated his adult life, de Kooning has enjoyed one of the most productive periods of his career. One of the things which gradually came to Fourcade's attention after he assumed control of de Kooning's affairs was the way in which, between visits to the studio, paintings which he considered "masterpieces" perpetually disappeared. In common with most of his contemporaries who came to be grouped under the Abstract Expressionist banner, de Kooning has always had difficulty deciding when a painting is finished: it was his practice to repeatedly, almost ritualistically, scrape canvases down and begin all over again, layering paint on paint. Fourcade, however, by stocking the studio with a never-ending supply of canvases, has weaned him away from this wasteful habit.

The results, currently on view in London, have not met with unanimous approval. "The largely incoherent work of a talent in decline", was *Time* magazine's verdict on the paintings of the 1970s. But these paintings, recognizably from the same hand which produced the "Women" series and the other masterpieces of the late-1940s and 50s, have already given way to those of the 1980s, which history may come to regard as some of the most important work de Kooning has ever done.

It was on de Kooning's early work

that the critic Harold Rosenberg based his idea of "action painting". The paintings on which de Kooning's reputation presently rests are characterized by muscular stabs and virtuosic slashes and splatters of paint. But even within the orthodoxies of "action painting" he was unpredictable, suddenly abandoning abstraction in 1951 for the "Women" paintings which have since been described as "unequaled in the history of art in fierceness, garishness, and hysteria".

"You never know what to expect when you come in here," Elaine de Kooning, his wife, said somewhat maternally. "You never know what he's going to be up to next." De Kooning married Elaine Fried in 1943 and separated from her in 1956. Now she is back looking after him. Another woman, the mother of his daughter, lives a short ride away from the house in East Hampton which he designed himself in the 1950s, and there are childhood photographs and drawings of Jane, now 28, scattered throughout the studio and the living area.

De Kooning's "Women" drew their inspiration from the glossy smiles of the models in the famous "T-zone" advertisements for Camel cigarettes (which has led Robert Hughes to describe them as looking like "Doris Day with shark teeth... one of the most memorable images of sexual insecurity in American culture"). Magazine advertising still provides de Kooning with much of the raw material for his painting. This intelligence has to be gleaned from Tom, his young assistant, however, because de Kooning guards his privacy jealously. The day before he had refused to address a word to what Elaine described as a "daring, very sweet, super-smart" but, unannounced, elderly male visitor.

"I love to go out in a car. I'm crazy about weekend drives even if I drive in the middle of the week," he

once said, explaining the voluptuous landscape paintings which succeeded the "Women" in the second half of the 1950s. "I love to be on those highways, you know, and they are really not very pretty... All those different billboards... I love those grotesque signs... Content (in paintings), if you want to say, is a glimpse of something, an encounter, you know, like a flash."

"The Worship of Art: notes on the new god" was the title of an article by Tom Wolfe in last month's issue of *Harper's* magazine, and evidence of the trend is everywhere apparent in New York. The Van Gogh show at the Metropolitan is sold out weeks in advance; queues start forming for "Primitivism" at the revamped Museum of Modern Art hours before the turnstiles open, and the new Julian Schnabel show at the Pace Gallery is as crowded as the bargain basement at Macy's.

It is easy, swept up in the hysteria, to forget that it wasn't always like this. That New York wasn't always the capital of modern art. Just 30 years ago, there were only about 50 modern artists living in New York City, compared with today's estimated 14,000, and fewer than 20 galleries. Willem de Kooning was 44 when he was given his first one-man show in 1948 and almost 60 before he could make a decent living.

De Kooning never liked the country when he lived in Manhattan, where he settled soon after his arrival from the Netherlands in 1926. But now that he lives in the country he rarely travels into the city any more. "He likes to be where he is. He likes to be settled," Elaine de Kooning said, and he nodded silently in agreement. Xavier Fourcade had to hire a helicopter to get him from the house to the airport when he made what was only his second visit to Holland in 50 years, in 1976. And then he wanted to turn round and fly straight home the minute the plane touched down in



De Kooning in his studio: one painting recently sold for almost \$2m

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Bon voyage

The yachting world can't decide how to react to news of the only British contestant in the Whitbread Round the World Race - Simon Le Bon, from the pop group Duran Duran. Is he just a playboy interloper throwing his money into the race? No. He can sail, but he cannot afford to enter independently. Le Bon, who belongs to Ruislip Sailing Club, crewed incognito in the Swan World Cup series in Sardinia this summer in a boat that won one race and ended up sixth. His skipper in the race, dubbed the most dangerous in the world, will be the battle-hardened American, Skip Novak. Le Bon said: "My commitments with the band make it look as if I will only be able to do the last two of the four legs." As that includes rounding Cape Horn, however, it won't be dull.

There is a new sports shop just opened in Paris. Its emblem: the winged foot of Mercury. Its name: Athlete's Foot.

Screen test

The first-ever floodlit women's international cricket match will be held in Melbourne next January, with coverage by Australian television. "It is a great step forwards for the game," said Rachael Heyhoe Flint, former England captain and current public relations person who is now trying to interest British companies in showing highlights. Meanwhile, Our Girls fly off for their long tour on Monday with every player paying £400 for the privilege.

Lost cause

Maybe the Dordogne should give up rugby and stick to foie gras. The area's third division side, Vergt, is continuing to play-to-rule, and followed its record-breaking 236-0 defeat by going down last week 350-0 - the equivalent of a converted try every 90 seconds. Vergt players turn up, change, and form up but make no effort to win the ball. The French club is protesting about the suspension of four of its players: three are now back, but as the fourth still has three weeks to go the protest tactic continues. A club committee man explained: "We couldn't accept the federation's scandalous decision... We had to react."

Advance tip

Luton supporters are fighting to keep their club in Luton but fear that the appointment of the new chairman, David Evans, brings the proposed move to Milton Keynes nearer. Evans is involved with a company contracted to collect rubbish in the new town. "Now," says the supporters' group spokesman Tom Hunt, "it will be taken by everyone that the board are following a Milton Keynes or bust policy."

China has set up its first sports kindergarten, 100 miles outside Peking.

Tough Innings

The England cricket team's innings defeat by the Indian under-25 side this week was only the second time an England touring side has lost in India apart from one-day international and test matches. But the only other team to suffer such ignominy had rather more excuse. When Douglas Jardine's 1933-34 MCC side was defeated by just 14 runs by the Maharaj Kumar of Vizianagram's 11, it was the 22nd match of an arduous tour, and followed hard upon a gruelling all-night train journey from Calcutta - a better excuse than jet-lag.

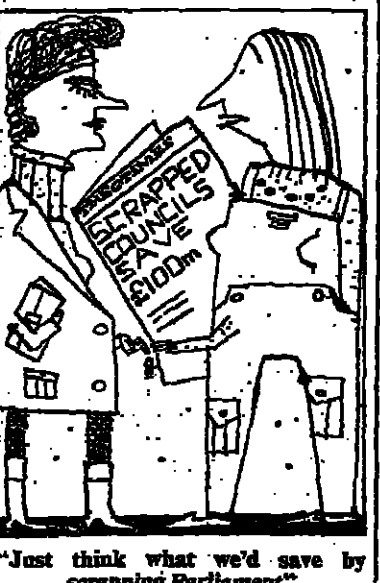
Leave off

Soviet sportsmen came more about western brand name sportswear than they do about training, laments the Young Communist party newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, this week. The paper grieves that the days are gone when athletes were proud to wear the national emblem on their chest, and deplores the habit of swapping shirts after matches. Referring to a particularly obtrusive western trademark, the paper asks: "Don't we give the three-leaf symbol too much honour in placing it alongside our state emblem?"

Fingers of fate

The weather grows colder, but the National Hunt jockey Richard Linley shows no sign of donning gloves. It is a legacy from an unfortunate incident some years back, when he was "buried" - dumped in a fence - because "I could not let the reins slip through my fingers because of the gloves".

BARRY FANTONI



"Just think what we'd save by scrapping Parliament."



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AND AFTER ABOLITION?

For the past 25 years since the report of the Royal Commission on the Government of Greater London, the nation's legislative agenda has, with few blessed intervals, been clogged with municipal reform. Now, as we contemplate the 90 clauses needed to abolish the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties, the prospect is of many more months of Parliamentary trafficking. And there is still no term. The Local Government Bill 1984 has an unstable, impermanent air. It envisions a future of ministerial orders demanding debate. It is a breeding ground of discontents that, deprived of County Hall and the sounding chambers of the metropolitan counties, will have nowhere to issue but at Westminster.

The abolition bill can be examined in vain for any expression of a general philosophy of the role of government in society, a doctrine of fiscal limits. It is a document lacking any sense of future (a future of crumbling inner city cores and intense pressure for development, in the south east, around the fringe). It is a document lacking coherent principles for local administration: if clean-lined "unitary" boroughs and districts are preferred then why does the bill consistently seek to force the lower tier authorities to make payments here, and join together in complex joint committees there? The bill still only represents tactical politics, the settling of scores (not for the first time in boundary reorganizations), a way of avoiding strategic questions about the fiscal and political independence of elected local authorities in our increasingly centralized state.

The GLC has no right to life, no more than the 87 authorities including the historic County of Middlesex abolished by the London Government Act of 1963. The very language of rights has been much abused by the GLC's current masters; expediently they forget Labour's past attitudes towards local government in the capital. Yet conurbation is a social fact and made all the plainer by the cordon of

the M25 now surrounding London. The citizens of Mr Heath's constituency in Bexley and those of Mrs Thatcher's in Barnet belong to the same urban mass; it is a nonsense to deny they are not mutually involved in the same set of London-wide issues, too big and too general safely to be left to the councillors respectively of Bexley or Barnet.

Less government of London is an admirable end. But it is not secured by a plethora of "arrangements" - a phrase that crops up suspiciously often in the bill. Nor can it be served by transferring decisions from councillors to appointees or bureaucrats in ministry corridors. Less government could - still - be achieved by a radical reappraisal of the functions of a London-wide authority. Patently there have been overlaps between the GLC and the boroughs. Patently the demise of grand planning (in the shape of the Greater London Development Plan) removed a plank from beneath the GLC. Patently the long echoing corridors of County Hall are a symbol of municipal grandiosity unsuited to the present times. But none of these diminishes the case for a directly-elected London assembly with a precise set of functions, a limited executive responsibility, but an open remit to monitor, qualify and scrutinize the workings of such executive agencies as, say, London Regional Transport.

In the metropolitan counties the case is different from London, indeed it is different between the counties. Why does there have to be a uniform pattern for areas as unrelated in geography and culture as the Black Country and that divided agglomeration, Merseyside, split by politics as well as water? The government's stated principle of devolving power to the metropolitan districts is sound. Until the advertising barrage began the metropolitan counties had few friends. An act of restoration of functions to Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle upon Tyne, coupled perhaps with boundary reforms in Warwickshire and the Wirral: that

would have been sensible. But the government fears its own principle.

The crude but effective test of this abolition exercise is money. Mr Livingstone, who will chaos as the monument to his administration, presents huge sums as its cost. The government's replies are equally unconvincing because they glibly assume the cost cutting enthusiasm of all borough and district politicians to be that of the Tory loyalists of Brentley and Trafford. The sums cannot indeed be done until the 1st April 1987 when the ratepayers of the conurbations first receive their bills under the new scheme. Even that will allow no full audit: it will take forensic accounting skill of the highest quality to trace through many Public Expenditure Survey lines the on-costs of the central government's own expanded responsibilities. There is the rub. The system will be more opaque. For accountability we will have to trust not the untrustworthy, but easily identifiable, Mr Livingstone - but - anonymous officials in Financial Management Units and Audit Offices.

Of course the exercise will appear to save money. It will - has to - secure economies because it happens simultaneously with the application of rate-capping and because the government has taken to itself the detailed control of spending and rating by the Inner London Education Authority and all the joint boards until the end of the decade. There will also be losers, some deserving, others innocent. There are staff at the GLC who have too long enjoyed the good life at the ratepayers' expense. There are louche grant-receivers, inefficient contractors, a stage army of public sector pensioners.

The bill should receive the most detailed scrutiny over the coming months. But a lingering question hangs over the great investment of Parliamentary time and political energy about to take place. What relevance does all this re-jigging of boundaries and functions have for the real agenda of British political economy in the second half of the 1980s?

CUTTING OUT THE BLARNEY

The sudden collapse of Anglo-Irish civilities in the wake of the Chequers meeting on Monday can be traced back to the unequal states of readiness of the two prime ministers as they entered the talks. Dr FitzGerald has been steeped in the New Ireland Forum for a year and honestly believes it points the way towards lasting peace and stability in Ireland. He is all set to bounce down the road of joint initiatives.

Mrs Thatcher, whether because of preoccupation with coal mines, change at the top of the Northern Ireland Office, or a more relaxed view of the likelihood and consequences of the eclipse of constitutional nationalism in Northern Ireland, was far from being ready for that. She and her ministers have a pretty good idea of what they are not prepared to go along with, but have not come to grips with what, if anything, they are prepared to do. The Chequers meeting therefore, when not negative, was exploratory or non-committal.

That sent Dr FitzGerald back to Dublin with nothing to show except an agreement to go on talking and meet again soon. Even that was something, for Dr FitzGerald's whole emphasis has been not on the Forum's models or conclusions, but on the analysis it offered, its celebrated "realities and requirements". On the basis of that, he believes, there is business to be done with the British given a degree of shared commitment and finesse. The forum report, considered as an agenda, still permeated the Anglo-Irish dialogue. Or so he thought.

Then came the press conferences: Mrs Thatcher with her brusque "out, out" for unity, federation and joint authority, and no acknowledgment that the forum report contained anything else of value; and Mr Hurd, who excluded any kind of executive role for the Republic in Northern Ireland, deprecated use of the word "alienation" (a key forum term) with reference to Northern nationalists, and announced that

he was leaving it to the parties there to fix up for themselves a mutually agreeable political framework, which, as is well known, is another way of doing nothing.

Now all this is in a way commendable as plain speaking, cutting out the blarney, a return to basics, telling it as it is, etc. Its effect in Dublin however was to leave Dr FitzGerald plucked and oven-ready for Mr Haughey.

Perhaps it is not all bad, and harmony can be restored; telephone calls and letters, with or without blarney, are in train. If it cannot, Dr FitzGerald's reputation will not be the only casualty. Others may be the short-term prospects of bringing the SDLP back into a full political role, and of improving the provincial and cross-border context for hammering the IRA; and the longer-term prospects of cultivating a less bitter, statist and territorially quarrelsome Irish nationalism, such as Dr FitzGerald exemplifies.

HER OWN LOYAL OPPOSITION

When Mr Francis Pym revealed his pre-election fears about a landslide Conservative majority, he could scarcely have envisaged the contrasting scenes of the past three days. On Wednesday night 30 Labour MPs, frustrated by their Party's failure to make its case through the proper means of politics, brought the picket line to Parliament, forcing the abandonment of the proceedings of the House amid the most violent scenes for years. The Government remained unmoved in its plan to uprate the strike pay deemed to be given to striking miners by their union.

On Thursday night it was the Conservatives turn for Parliamentary embarrassment. The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, had failed to reassure his own MPs about the future of overseas aid and eight Government backbenchers voted against their own Party while another 40 abstained from giving it their support. It was a powerful protest, a constitutional one, which may still be effective.

The Labour Party's reaction to being pinned beneath Mr Pym's "landslide" has become one of wriggling dissatisfaction - grown

to the point of desperation - with the role of official opposition. The spirit of Mr Scargill has moved from the besieged coalfields through Blackpool and Brighton to the benches of Westminster. The shadow leadership may not like it but Labour supporters who console themselves that Mr Kinnock's absence in Moscow somehow emboldened the menacing phalanx of Messrs Benn, Nelling and Heffer, are taking yet another draft of their favourite self-delusion.

So increasingly the most cogent Parliamentary opposition is coming from within the Conservative Party itself. Back bench attacks on Mrs Thatcher's policies have not always been as resolute as that on Thursday night. It was particularly noteworthy to see the Chairman of the Party's Foreign Affairs Committee and all his officers among the ranks of the abstainers. This was not just an eruption from one of those intermittent volcanoes, Mr Heath, Mr Rippon, Mr Prior or Mr Pym himself. It did not simply add to the ill-connected archipelago of damp islands in the Tory sea. It was the type of well organized opposition on

which all Governments must keep a careful watch.

The Conservative critics may not win their argument on foreign aid. Nor should they: there is nothing sacrosanct about public spending abroad although the sight of the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, so often the scourge of political manoeuvrings by big spenders against cuts, offering up for slaughter those sensitive milk-calls of the British Council and the BBC, gives cause for sadness that the Foreign Office quicksand has sucked him down so far.

But whatever the effect of Tory protesters (and the recent, well organized, and equally unwelcome lobby in favour of protecting British Airways from competition reinforces the respect for their power) there is no doubt that the battle between the centre and right of the governing party is fast superseding that between Government and official opposition. Our political system relies on dialogue to communicate ideas between the electorate and the elected. While Labour's dark side predominates we must welcome the preparedness of the packed Conservative benches to provide organized opposition to themselves.

Benefits cut for handicapped

From Mrs Helen Hopkin and Mrs Audrey Creed

Sir, Following the uproar in the House of Commons regarding the introduction of the measure to reduce the amount of supplementary benefit paid to the families of striking miners, we would point out that the same amount is being deducted from the heating element of supplementary benefit.

Why, therefore, has no such protest been made on behalf of the thousands of handicapped people who will be similarly affected? The number of miners' families to be affected will, we understand, be very small. The number of handicapped people who will be affected runs into thousands.

Miners are people who are capable of working and when working capable of earning a good income. Most handicapped people are not capable of earning even a small income. The protest confirms the total lack of caring demonstrated by both the major parties and is out of all proportion to the number of people who will be affected by the measure.

The timing and wording of the introduction of this measure may well demonstrate a lack of tact and understanding, but that neither explains nor justifies the volume and ferocity of this outcry on behalf of a vocal minority when no outcry has been heard on behalf of a majority who are unable to speak for themselves.

Your obedient servants, HELEN HOPKIN, Hon Secretary, AUDREY CREED, Welfare Co-ordinator, Isle of Thanet Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults, 25 North Foreland Road, Broadstairs, Kent, November 21.

From Mrs Elisabeth Woolcombe
Sir, The uproar reported in the House of Commons last night prompts one to write to you, not about striking miners and the reduction in their supplementary benefit, but about the reduction in supplementary benefit for the over-seventies, which comes into force on November 26.

Last week I visited a very independent and courageous widow of 78 who lives in a well old council house right in the depth of the country. She depends on her coal fire for her heat and receives a heating allowance.

On November 26 the heating allowance will be marginally increased by 5p per week, but amazingly the government will claw back 43p of this, her only additional requirement.

Arguments rage about the rights and wrongs of the miners' strike, but to reduce an old woman's heating allowance by £14 leaving her unable to purchase sufficient coal to keep herself warm this winter, must be wrong.

Yours faithfully, ELISABETH WOOLCOMBE, Berryfield, Much Hadham, Near Ware, Hertfordshire, November 22.

Stamp of disapproval

From Mr Ozer Koray
Sir, I would like to bring the following clarification to the points raised by David Brooks (November 6).

Visitors to Kibris (North Cyprus) can opt not to have their passports stamped on entry or exit, thus overcoming any problems that may arise on a later visit to Greece.

As far as my Government is concerned the border with the Greek side is not closed. However, restrictions are imposed on tourists and others by the Greek Cypriot Administration. On the other hand, visitors to South Cyprus who wish to visit North Cyprus are equally welcome. A day trip to the Turkish part of Nicosia can be made by filling in (during office hours) a simple form at the Ledra Palace checkpoint in Nicosia, where a £1 fee is charged. Entry is granted immediately.

For trips to areas outside Nicosia and for overnight stays two working days' notice is required. Those UK tourists visiting South Cyprus who intend to cross into the North, can obtain the permit by applying to my office a fortnight prior to their departure.

And finally, as the insurance of the cars hired in the South usually does not cover the North, visitors should be aware of this and make alternative arrangements at the checkpoint. Car hire in the North being widely available at much cheaper rates.

Yours faithfully, OZER KORAY, London Representative, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, 28 Cockspur Street, SW1, November 9.

Theatre at risk

From Mr Alex Bernstein

Sir, May I comment on Sir William Rees-Mogg's letter (November 20) about the Royal Exchange Theatre?

He refers to a supplementary grant of £100,000 this year, but this is after initially making a grant which was £45,000 less than the previous year. The true increase was therefore £54,000, welcome but not quite as generous as it may first appear.

The additional subsidy of £100,000 next year will, under the conditions of the grant, need to be utilised entirely in reducing our deficit and so will not be available for running the theatre. As a result,

No place for fear in market economy

From Dr L.A. Siedentop

Sir, It seems that an important point is being missed in discussions about the Thatcher Government. The point is hinted at in the polite but devastating letter from Professor Furuli (November 16).

Few who observe British young people today will deny that a kind of market rationality has reappeared in them. Compared to students ten or fifteen years ago, students today know that they are in a market place and must compete. They see the same forces at work in the economy, perhaps even to a fault.

But is that enough? Fear should not be mistaken for confidence. Nor will countries which have flourished in the post-war period have been stimulated by more than fear. Social institutions in such countries have achieved what might be called a degree of functional autonomy - that is, they make it possible for individuals to imagine themselves in other social positions and to believe that they will not be held back by their backgrounds or accents.

That sense of opportunity is the ultimate source of a more dynamic society (witness Japan), and it is where successive UK governments have failed.

What can be done to build such confidence? In addition to "hard-nosed" fiscal and monetary policies the Government must be seen to be concerned itself seriously with the notion of equality and opportunity. In the past it has been far too easy for some to preempt the top positions in finance, industry and perhaps even the professions.

The widespread perception that such is the case rebounds in a terrible way on personal ambition. It gives rise to the stonewall which plagues UK industrial relations and to the defence of communities which might otherwise seem unattractive.

Enforcing the law

From Mr Lionel Shipley

Sir, Mr Peter Shipley (feature, November 20) is right for drawing our attention to the many senior police officers who are unwilling to put their forces in riot helmets, behind shields, to man road blocks at dawn in various mining villages.

The argument that such policing methods may have detrimental effects on relations with "the public" is hardly an excuse for the widespread failures in law enforcement.

Take, for instance, the burning barricades that greet the working miners' buses. The erection of these obstacles on the highway is clearly a criminal offence. Yet one wonders why, in so many cases, the police are content to limit their actions to

extinguishing the fires, rather than prevent the erection of the barricades, by arresting those engaged in this unlawful activity.

I think, however, that Mr Shipley is on dangerous ground when he links law enforcement with the success of the Government's social and economic policies. These policies cannot always be blamed for variations in regional prosperity, unemployment, etc. Too many factors over which the Government has no control are involved.

Therefore, the law should be enforced strictly before "rivulets of protest" turn into sweeping torrents. The culture of violence becomes irresistible only when it is not resisted.

Yours faithfully, LIONEL BLOCH, 9 Wimpole Street, W1.

Right to manage

From the Chairman of the Wider Share Ownership Council

Sir, Sir Geoffrey Chandler's statement (November 19) that the right to manage is a right which no experienced manager believes to exist seems to me to reflect most faithfully the "will to lose" identified by your contributor, David Hart, on the preceding Saturday.

It is, of course, very understandable that those who have been exposed to years of consensus-seeking in a climate where acquiescence in the pretensions of trade union monopolies was accepted as natural and inescapable should find themselves expressing such views.

It is surely important to recognise, however, that people and institutions invest money in a company quite largely (and rightly) because they believe in the ability of the management to take the decisions which will make and keep the company profitable. The appointment of Sir Michael Edwards at Dunlop is a perfect example of this process at work.

The right of management to manage is fundamental and no derogation from it can or should be accepted by shareholders - not least the gratifyingly increasing number of employees with shares in the companies for which they work.

Yours faithfully, EDGAR PALAMOUNTAIN, Wider Share Ownership Council, Junon House, 84 St Paul's Churchyard, ECA, November 19.

'Restructured' rugby

From Dr J. Wigley

Sir, Rugby football relies so much upon close and often concealed physical contact that it is hazardous to judge the amount of violence in a particular match, let alone over a period of years, but I am sure that Mr D. J. Skipper, the Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School (November 17) is mistaken in implying that "gratuitous violence", that is, violence for its own sake, is nowadays commonly found in school matches.

What one does all too frequently see and hear of is the subordination of skill and pace to strength and hard play, the latter of which is so hard that it comes close to actual violence and is intended to intimidate and to overawe opponents, to achieve by force what cannot be

By-pass dilemma for Parliament

From Lord Foot and others

Sir, That Okehampton should have a suitable by-pass is accepted on all sides. But whether there exists a reasonable alternative north of the town avoiding desecration of the superb fringes of Dartmoor National Park is not beyond argument, however vehemently the departmentants feel that their inspector got it right in recommending a park route.

It therefore concerns us that the Government are apparently supporting a procedural move in the House of Commons to deny to petitioners in Parliament a hearing before a joint committee of both Houses, to which only on November 14 the Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means granted, after a proper hearing, their full fiat.

We believe that no Government have adopted this stratagem before in their own interest since the passing of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 and we deplore it.

For many years it has been the policy of all parties in Parliament that no new route for long-distance traffic should be constructed through a national park unless it has been demonstrated that no reasonable alternative route exists. If ever there was a case where proper consideration by Parliament of the application of that policy was demanded, this is it.

We equally deplore the apparent intention of the Government to create a dilemma which leaves the House of Lords with but one option, that of annulling the relevant Orders before them - another example of confrontation rather than reasoned consideration being the instrument of settling issues amenable to more civilised treatment. But if the motion in the Commons is passed, then surely the motion in the Lords should be supported.

Yours faithfully, JOHN FOOT, JOHN HUNT, PETER MELCHETT, MOLSON, TORRISON, DONALDSON, HUGH CARADON, House of Lords, November 22.

Sinking of Belgrano

From Mr Tam Dalyell, MP for Linlithgow (Labour)

Sir, Where is Lord Annan's evidence for his endorsement (November 19) of the Government's position - "It is also now clear that the Peruvian peace proposals were received in London well after the Belgrano was sunk"?

Haig and other Americans in a position to know, such as Goldberg, Gompertz, and Dean Fischer, Beland, Ullon, Arias Stella, and other Peruvians, have given a different version of events. And indeed on television Cecil Parkinson and Cranley Onslow have let the cat out of the bag that the Foreign Office knew about the Peruvian proposals on the morning of Sunday, May 2.

By no stretch of the imagination can what they say tally with Mrs Thatcher's response to Denzil Davies that the "first indications" of the Peruvian peace proposals reached London three hours after the Belgrano was sunk at 11.15 pm. If Lord Annan is concerned about protecting the sources of intelligence, why should not the signals and intercepted signals be produced to judges in a tribunal under the 1921 Act?

Yours faithfully, TAM DALYELL, House of Commons, November 19.

Ordination of women

From the Reverend Graham Lynch-Watson

Sir, "But not yet the priestess" is the heading over your leader on the ordination of women to the priesthood (November 13).

However widely the parties to the debate may differ could not all agree to renounce absolutely the use of the word "priestess"?

Here is a word that has overwhelming, if not exclusive, pagan associations. It is a word linked in the mind with superstition, black magic and the like. Has it therefore any place within the vocabulary of the Christian life and ministry?

As I understand it, those women seeking ordination within the Church of England believe they have a vocation to serve Christ and his Church as women priests. They have no wish to become "priestesses".

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM LYNCH-WATSON, 51 Galsworthy Drive, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire.

Paper pounds

From Lord Moyne

Sir, The announcement that £1 notes are to be discontinued in England, but still to be printed in Scotland, leads to the thought that Scottish notes should be made legal tender in England.

It is absurd that English notes should be legal in Scotland but not the reverse. It is a price-grievance for Scottish nationalists. Legalization of Scottish notes in England would anyway be welcomed by those of us who travel between the two countries.

Yours faithfully, LORD MOYNE, House of Lords.

From Mr Brian Pink

Sir, I doubt that Mr Cadell (November 20) can hear the metal pound falling, but he should be able to hear it bottom out.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN PINK, Mingary, Woodland Avenue, Hartley, Dartford, Kent.

Ghosts as guests at the feast

What writers would you flee to for the festive season? I could spend a very happy Christmas with Horace Walpole and his "out of town" cronies in front of the big eighteenth-century fireplace of Strawberry Hill, "amongst anathemas and mince-pies". Or with dear Charles Lamb, snug in his rooms at the Inner Temple - "I always spell plum-pudding with a b-plumb - I think it reads fatter and more suet."

Or even with Wordsworth, skating on the lake, and toasting scones with Dorothy, and opening new books with butter-knives (provided a little plum or Keadal Black Drop was to hand).

But Christmas with Dickens would, I'm sure, be hell. In the winter he wrote *A Christmas Carol*, he continually walked the backstreets of London, "fifteen and twenty miles many a night", and "wept and laughed and wept again in the most extraordinary manner during composition". Once finished, he flung himself into appalling jollifications, dancing the gallop for two hours on end, playing incessant blind-man's buff, and performing ghastly conjuring tricks like producing a Christmas pudding out of an empty saucepan and heating it over a blazing fire in Clarkson Stanfield's top hat, "without damaging the lining". One's heart goes out to poor old Scrooge, who wanted only a bit of peace.

The most unlikely writers hold out strange seasonal charms. John Milton passed the Christmas of 1629 at Christ's College, quietly writing his beautiful *Nativity Ode* - "and all the spangled host keep watch in squadrons bright".

He was only 21, and in a letter to his schoolfriend, Charles Diodati, he praises the "festive banquets and December merriment" of Christmas joys in the countryside, "and the French vintage drunk by the cosy fireside". Admittedly the letter is written in Latin verse, his *Elegia Sexta*, and he goes on to say that epic poets like Homer and himself do better to stick to vegetarian dishes and "spring water in a beechwood bowl".

But this is a donnish footnote, and much can be forgiven the grave undergraduate who bothers to go out "at dawn's first light" to write his poem for the birthday of Christ, describing so memorably "the star-led Wizards", and how "all about the courtly stable/Bright-harnessed Angels sit in order serviceable" - better than any Botticelli Christmas card.

Perhaps the universities are particularly suited to old-fashioned literary Christmases - with their chapel bells, candlelit refectories, and gleaming port decanters. M. R. James, the Provost of King's, established the tradition of reading his hideous *Ghost Stories* of an *Antiquary* in his rooms after dinner in the 1890s.

His old tutor, Lummoore, recalled with relish "Last night Monty read us a new Christmas story of the most blood curdling character, after which those played animal grab who did not mind having their clothes torn to pieces and their hands maimed."

Often the tale was completed only at the last moment, as his audience waited, and Monty would emerge shadow-like from his bedroom with an apparently



illegible manuscript, and blow out the penultimate candle and summon the festive ghosts.

But other shadows lengthened. His favourite pupil, James McBryde, who illustrated six of the stories, suddenly died from acute appendicitis in 1904. Then, the First World War permanently darkened the proceedings, and in 1917 Lummoore sadly refused to come from Elton because of the terrible slaughter at the Front that had destroyed the old world they knew. "What? Shall I pass a Christmas without *in dulci jubilo*... Without that Madeira? Without animal grab? And the walk in the Backs and the talk with ghosts and the sense of friendship and old days and above all the mystery of the

beauty of Chapel and the fellowship of Christmas Communion?"

Years later Monty looked back nostalgically: "All very pedestrian and Anglican and Victorian and everything else it ought not to be, but I should like well enough to have it over again."

Of course Victorian literary Christmases were not all so pedestrian. When Stephen Crane settled at Brede House, near Rye, in Sussex, for the Christmas of 1899, he gave one of the oddest bohemian parties on record, presided over by his wife Cora.

His guest list was formidable, including - on various visits - H. G. Wells, Joseph Conrad, and Henry James. (It

was rumoured that Cora poured champagne in the Master's top hat, and much worse, photographed him eating a doughnut). Beer was drunk at breakfast, and poker played at night. A Christmas pantomime of sorts was composed, entitled *The Ghost*, and co-written, according to the programme, by James Gissing, Rider Haggard, Conrad, and Wells. Conrad subsequently said that his contribution was limited to one seasonable sentence: "This is a jolly old world."

Wells particularly recalled in his *Autobiography* the steamy dancing, the candles that dripped onto their heads and backs, and the remarkable seventeenth-century sanitation which was accessible only

through "the Girls' Dormitory". In consequence of the latter, "the wintry countryside next morning was dotted with wandering, melancholy, preoccupied men guests".

Crane, the youthful author of *The Red Badge of Courage*, was actually dying from tuberculosis, and had a haemorrhage on the final night. Wells's last clear memory of that bitter-sweet Christmas party was cycling "into a drizzling dawn along a wet road to call up a doctor in Rye". When Crane finally died the following June, James wrote infinitely kind, generous letters to Cora - a true and touching extension of that extraordinary Christmas camaraderie.

Not all writers are at home for Christmas, and some of the

most interesting were spent abroad. Coleridge passed the season of 1799, after writing *Kubla Khan*, surprisingly sober in Germany on the Baltic lakes at Ratzeburg. His description of the holiday skating inspired Wordsworth to write that wonderful wintry, tinkling section of *The Prelude*.

He also produced what is, I believe, one of the very first accounts in English of the ritual of the Christmas tree, long before it was imported here.

On the evening before Christmas day one of the parlours is lighted up by the children, into which the Parents must not go: a great yew bough is fastened on the Table, and a multitude of little tapers fastened in the bough, and coloured paper etc. hangs and flutters from the twigs. Under this bough the Children lay out in great order the presents they mean for their Parents... and then the raptures of the very little Ones when at last the twigs and their needles began to take fire and snap - O it was delight to them!"

It sounds quite perilous. It was also most poignant, for Coleridge's very modern sense of all this as a children's festival was shadowed by the fact that he had just learned that his own child, little Berkeley, had died back home in Somerset. A Parisian Christmas tree appears in the famous photograph of Scott Fitzgerald, Zelda, and their little daughter Scottie, taken at the rue Tilsit in December 1925.

While her parents show glazed smiles and swing their legs in unison like the Rockwells, little Scottie's anxious frown, ankle deep in presents, seems to show a strange childish premonition of the tragedy to come. Four years later, the Crash had occurred, and the "carnival" had collapsed. The Christmas of 1930 was spent at Zelda's Swiss sanatorium, and Fitzgerald wrote *Babylon Revisited*, in my view his finest short story, lamenting all that lost festival.

Of course, your modern literary Christmas can be just as healthy, spicy and innocent as anything at Sir Roger de Coverley's or Dingley Dell. Snowballing Mrs Prothero with the young dog Dylan Thomas among the bat-bellied chapels of his Child's Christmas in Wales

is a cheery affair, and the visit to the Swansea relatives can be wonderfully digestive. "At tea, the recovered Uncles were jolly, and the ice cake loomed in the centre of the table like a marble grave."

Alternatively, there's carol-barking with the young Laurie Lee in deep and crisp and even Gloucestershire. His "Winter" in *Cider with Rosie* has a rural, ageless poetry like something out of Hardy or Shakespeare.

The epic, five-mile, snow-blinded, candle in a jar-lit trek with the toughs of the choir, from the squire's dark hall to Farmer Joseph's warm and welcoming porch, singing "Noel" slightly flat, and "Kingwenlush" with slurry vigour, will always set the blood a-tinging. As they cross the last, icy crest of the Cotswoldcombe, "the sky cleared, and broad streams of stars ran down over the valley and away to Wales".

Then they launch, breathless but true, into the final rendition of "Joseph was a walking". "And two thousand Christmases became real to us then; the houses, the halls, the places of paradise had all been visited; the stars were bright to guide the kings through snow, and across the farmyard we could hear the beasts in their stalls. We were given roast apples and hot mince-pies, in our nostrils were spices like myrrh, and in our wooden box, as we headed back for the village, there were gifts for all."

Yet surveying them again, from court to farmhouse, from quad to choirhall, I think that I for one would turn at last to that little labourer's cottage in the woods of Essex, where the poet Edward Thomas spent his last Christmas before going over to Arras, to die in the trenches in 1917. His wife Helen Thomas tells in *World Without End* how his leave came unexpectedly, like a miracle, and how it was spent in all simplicity, with the children and the Christmas tree and the first, shutting out the icy world for one brief moment.

It was then that Edward Thomas wrote one of his last poems, "Out In The Dark", and assured her that "whatever happens, all is well between us for ever and ever". That will be my little hosanna.

Richard Holmes

Critics' choice 1984

Fantasy from a dolly mixture

Brian Alderson

Along with Adrian Mitchell's *Nothingness Day*, reviewed on page 14, the children's book that I have most enjoyed this year is *Behind the Attic Wall* by Sylvia Cassedy (Bodley Head, £5.95). It is a curious fantasy about a disturbed child who gains a kind of solace through a family of dolls, and it succeeds against various self-imposed odds. As for adult books, in this vintage year for biographies, I should like to single out Ann Thwaite's *Edmund Gosse* (Secker, £15) as one that majestically justifies the scale and depth of its inquiry.

A killer among the patricians

Marcel Berlins

An average vintage for crime writing. Some of the old dependables showed signs of fatigue, and the new generation of discovering a genius among the debutants failed to materialize. The Americans, on the whole, showed more originality and enterprise than the Brits. *Uncivil Seasons*, by Michael Malone (Chatto, £3.95), is a moody mystery set in small-town North Carolina, where the sensitive cop investigates killings in his own emotional conviction and is more literate than most of its kind. Of the masters, Anthony Price has yet to misplace a subtly. *Sion Crossing* (Gollancz, £8.95) takes more risks than most of its predecessors, and its resolution is thus more satisfying. For fastidious pretension, I relished Jonathan Gash's *The Gondola Scam* (Collins, £6.95), an exuberant caper involving a dodgy detective on the trail of antiques in Venice.

New jokes, old haunts

A. S. Byatt

The novel which gave me most pleasure - formal, intellectual and choking-with-laughter-in-bed - is David Lodge's *Small World* (Secker & Warburg, £8.95). I like it for its pleasantness, and its pure comedy about what can be an aggressive and bitchy world. I like the way it is haunted by other kinds of writing, the Gail legends, T. S. Eliot, James Joyce, I keep discovering new jokes in it. My non-fiction book would be Margaret Forster's *Significant Sisters* (Secker & Warburg, £12.50), a compulsively read-



Child's choice: A woodcut by John Lawrence from *Nothingness Day*, a collection of witty poems by Adrian Mitchell

able account of the lives of eight 19th-century feminists. Margaret Forster writes history with a novelist's eye for little details, and is interested in the contradictions and conflicts in her heroines' attitudes to their own femininity. She says: "Researching the material for this book has radically altered where I stand." In some ways it has changed where I stand, too.

The Hogarth Press has re-issued Sylvia Townsend-Warner's translation of Proust's *By Way of Sainte-Beuve* (£3.95). It is a marvellously apt and readable translation, much more than a first run at the autobiographical style of *A la Recherche*. These are the thoughts of a great literary mind about the act of writing and the nature of the writer. Indispensable, for those who care about these things.

Wise, witty and well built

Stuart Evans

Fiction most enjoyed: *God Knows* by Joseph Heller (Cape, £8.95) for its serious irreverence and exuberant hilarity. *De Alfonso*, tennis by J. P. Donleavy (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95) for its mordant wit, elegant writing and sly satire; *The Princess of Q.* by Virginia Moriconi (Duckworth, £8.95) for its imaginative scope, Gothic intensity and faultless construction; *According to Mark* by Penelope Lively (Heinemann, £8.95) for its gentleness and understanding, laced with acerbic humour and its unpretentious, always apposite prose. Non-fiction: Angela Livingstone's biography of the brilliant and astonishing Len

Painful and passionate

Elaine Feinstein

An exceptionally good year for fiction. I found three to be most memorable: Cynthia Ozick's *The Cannibal Galaxy* (Secker & Warburg, £7.95), a sad and comic pilgrimage from a childhood spent hidden by nuns in wartime Paris (where the central figure has nothing to do but read like a maniac), into middle age, Middle America, and obsession; Milan Kundera's *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* (Faber, £9.50), where the edge of passion and the pain of jealousy are both made sharp again, without disguising the callousness of the human spirit in our age to all forms of treachery. Finally, Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus* (Chatto and Windus, £8.95) where the usual baroque splendour we have come to associate with this remarkable writer is crossed by the new and raucous voice of her heroine, Fevvers. In my reading of poetry, I found myself this year turning to Greek, both ancient and modern; and in this context, was fascinated to read George Steiner's *Antigones*. Particularly helpful is the opening section, where the influence of the Antigone myth on German Romanticism is explored with vigour, insight and an uncommon sense of contemporary relevance.

Devil of a good laugh

Gay Firth

Comedy is simply a funny way of being serious. This year, deserved and unexpected, more than its share of good fiction glided with clever comedy. *The Life and Loves of a She-Devil* (Hodder and Stoughton, £8.95). Fay Weldon's ferocious cartoon novel, turned stylish double somersaults over feminist film-fam about feminine beauty, and Alan Judd picked a pin-striped path to Africa, courtesy of the Foreign Office, in *Short of Glory* (Hodder and Stoughton, £8.95). *Windus* (Secker, £8.95) is a diplomatic bag of tricks as lethal, and as funny, as any *Yes Minister* prototype. If you tickle us, do we not laugh? Yes, please; not least with Barmitzvah boys Philip Roth and Harold Jacobson exposing private obsessions in wild, hilariously public psychotherapy sessions called *The Anatomy Lesson* (Cape, £8.95) and *Peeping Tom* (Chatto and Windus, £8.95). And the very angels would laugh, spluttering into their trumpets at the round earth's imagined corners, over *Small World*, David Lodge's virtuoso variation on the Gail theme. *Si fore in terris, rideret Democritus*.

The curse of the cat people

Gontran Goulden

Norman Lewis wrote one of the best war books (*Naples '44*). His article in *The Sunday Times* "Genocide in Brazil" awakened the world to a scandal. He has now produced *Voices of the Old Sea* (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95) which is charming, funny, harsh, yet compassionate. He recounts his seasonal visits to two villages in North-east Spain just after the Civil War. In one, where fishermen operate, and the cats starve in the other, where peasants live, all the dogs starve. Nobody can bear to kill animals, they are just abandoned. The fishermen - the cat people - are proud, reactionary, democratic, dignified, gentle, anti-clerical, hard-working and hopelessly superstitious. The God-fearing and witch-hunting dog people, who are constantly at war with the cat people, work poor land or ailing cork forests. The cat people's sources of sardines and tunny are running out. Nobody wants, or expects, anything to change, except marginally for the better. Then a police-suborning black-marketizer and developer of "asphyxiating vulgarity" arrives. He seduces the cat people and turns the whole area

into a nauseating tourists' delight. Mr Lewis describes his scenes and characters with sensitivity and wit. When I was not laughing I felt sick with apprehension, and ready to cry.

Desperate for refreshment

Tim Heald

The book panjandrum says that specialists have to stick to their last. So the thriller reviewer is not allowed to bore on about Ballard or Brooker, let alone Heinlein, unless it's the *Slimy* Memorial (Hamish Hamilton, £12.50), which is probably the book I have least enjoyed this year. If you read as many thrillers as I have to, you quickly become depressed by the desperate second-hand quality of so many. I never wish to read another "authentic" description of the Oval Office in the White House. And please, no more Italian adventures, or drives round Moscow based on the *Intourist* A-Z. Of the conventional "Us against the Russians" blockbusters I most enjoyed Frederick Forsyth's *The Fourth Protocol* (Hutchinson, £9.95) which has a real sense of pace and a genuine feeling that he knows what he is talking about. And partly because originality is at such a premium, I find that Mary Napier's *State of Fear* (Hutchinson, £7.95) and Martin Page's *Set a Thief* (The Bodley Head, £7.95) both stay in the mind. Neither of them reads as if it is a rehash of half a dozen of last year's books. Which is rare and refreshing.

War through the eyes of a child

John Higgins

For once I will go along with Melvyn Bragg's *Channel Four* jury for the Booker prize, plus indeed the man who sets the odds at Ladbrokes, and take J.G. Ballard's *Empire of the Sins* (Gollancz, £8.95) as the most engrossing book I have read this year. The child's outlook on events is a tricky viewpoint to take. But it has rarely been done better in recent years than via Mr Ballard's Jim, looking at the wreckage of war in Shanghai. Unsentimental, ever-watchful, resilient and increasingly skilful in the art of self-preservation, Jim makes a first-class companion. It was a pleasure to watch him growing up.

More critics' choices - pages 12, 13

<h2>HEINEMANN</h2>	
<p>GORE VIDAL Lincoln</p> <p>'It is the best novel about politics that Vidal has written... an extraordinary achievement which deserves great praise.'</p> <p>Andrew Brown THE SPECTATOR £9.95</p>	<p>ANITA DESAI £7.95 In Custody</p> <p>'a remarkable piece of work... a magnificent novel.'</p> <p>Saiman Rushdie THE OBSERVER</p>
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<p>DAVID LEIGH HIGH TIME</p> <p>£9.95</p>	
<p>BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS</p>	

Books for Christmas/2

From English eccentrics to Irish inventions

Daisy Ashford: her life (Chatto and Windus, £8.95) is the first biography of the celebrated child author of *The Young Visitors* and it is the first book of Mrs R. M. Malcomson, Daisy's niece. She draws on a large range of family papers as well as her own memories and those of the family. The picture is one of a late Victorian Catholic family, unburdened by salaried employment and school routine, full of eccentricities, and with one highly precocious girl.

Daisy was born in 1881 and died in 1972. When she was four she was discovered hiding under her father's desk listening to his conversation with a Jesuit priest, Father McSwiney; she decided to write his life and dictated an entirely fictitious biography of 4,000 words to her father. She also wrote a play entitled *A Woman's Crime* in which the heroine is stabbed to death. The butler informs the lady of the house that her daughter is lying dead upstairs. "I will go and see her at once", she announces. "Oh, no, madam", the butler says, "I will bring the body down".

The Young Visitors was written in her own hand in a twopenny exercise book when she was nine. It was read by her parents and put away in a drawer full of children's writings and drawings. It lay forgotten until it was rediscovered nearly 30 years later and immediately appreciated by Frank Swinnerton, then reader and editor for Chatto and Windus. He sent it to J. M. Barrie, then at the height of his fame and reputation, who replied that it was "a work of genius and I am enchanted with it". It was published in 1919 with a preface by Barrie, who described it as a masterpiece.

This book gives us in a quiet, factual way the background and life of Daisy Ashford. It will make everyone reread *The Young Visitors* and, with high hopes, buy twopenny exercise books for our children and grandchildren.

Hallam Tennyson is the poet's youngest great-grandson, the "descendant of a third-rate

Biography



Victorian versifier", as his prep school headmaster cruelly referred to him. At Eton in the time of M. R. James, at Balliol with Edward Heath and Roy Jenkins, he served with the Friends Ambulance Unit in the war, was for two years in charge of a rural development programme in India, and spent 14 years as assistant head of the BBC's Radio Drama department, where he gained a distinguished reputation as a writer of documentaries and features.

He has written half-a-dozen books, including *Talking of Gandhi* (with Francis Watson) and a book of short stories, *The Wall of Dust*, (of which Peter Quennell said, "is this the writer we have been waiting for?")

The Hammed Mind (André Deutsch, £12.95) is his autobiography and the title comes from Wordsworth's *The Prelude*, which Tennyson regards as one of the greatest poems: "a mind beset with images and haunted by itself".

His book is much (too much) concerned with the adventures of his inner life - his spiritual and sexual adventures. He is bisexual and gives us long and vivid accounts of his homosexual experiences: we have had nothing like this since Tom Dribben and George Melly, but then they did not philosophize their enjoyments. Tennyson declares that "my sexual preoccupations seemed to me to be totalitarian, and I now believe that nearly all homosexual acts

are, similarly, rites of symbolic magic".

It is an awkward, uncomfortable book by a confused, tortured, haunted man. He is at his best writing about India: his portrait of his Bengal village alone makes it worth reading the book. He also allows a little humour to peep through his difficult and worried pages. The post-war Labour Government sent Frederick Burroughs to be Governor of Bengal: he had been Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen and the Bengali establishment mocked him - they said "the British used to send us men who went hunting and shooting, now they send us men who go shunting and hooting".

Celtic Dawn (Hamish Hamilton, £12.95) is a long, lovely, lively book portraying the Irish literary renaissance, by Ulick O'Connor, poet, playwright and biographer - his biographies of Oliver St John Gogarty and Brendan Behan have received high praise. His story begins, as it should, with Standish O'Grady on a wet day in Galway in 1870 reading O'Halloran's *History of Ireland*; it is brought to a dramatic end in June 1938 when in St Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, Prime Minister Eamon de Valera addresses Douglas Hyde, first President of Ireland.

The foundations and fortunes of the Irish Literary Theatre and the Abbey Theatre are well and properly set against the background of Irish politics. Farnell is well portrayed.

How saddening it is to be reminded of the history of the Irish question, the *clashes* of hereditas of British politics, of Lord Salisbury's *clashes* against Home Rule. "You would not confide free representative institutions to Hottentots".

But it is equally saddening that the great figures of the Irish renaissance were not more acutely aware of their rich and varied native heritage. They should have read more carefully O'Curry, Wood-Martin, Sir William Wilde (Oscar's father) and George Coffey, and not



peopled ancient Ireland with fairies, leprechauns and myths.

Legends and archaeology were already telling the facts of the Irish past, if only they could be properly read. Moore and Yeats wrote a play based on the Diarmuid and Grania heroic tale, and it was first performed in October 1901: Standish O'Grady was found outside the theatre weeping with vexation: he thought the heroic age had been brought down to the level of the mob.

Yeats was himself too preoccupied with Madame Blavatsky, the Order of the Golden Dawn, fairies, Moore, after a bicycle ride to see Newgrange and Dowth, said: "How much greater these places are to me

than Rome can ever be! These places are out of fountains of fire, the Druids saw the Everlasting Ones ascend in spirals". The Celtic twilight was often obscured by Irish mist of misunderstandings.

The book is full of good writing, quick sensitive characterization, and a host of very funny stories. Of the Kildare Street Club O'Connor says: "It had been founded by Irish landlords in 1782 and it was said that if you amalgamated the London Carlton Club and the Athenaeum, then studied the end product with mothballs, you might get something approaching the Kildare Street Club".

Edward Martyn was expelled

from the club, but challenged the legality of his expulsion in the courts before the Master of the Rolls and won his case, his counsel quoting, to great effect, Bishop Berkeley's statement that "Irish landlords were vultures with iron bowels".

After Martyn's successful reinstatement a member asked why he had chosen to return to a club which had expelled him. He replied: "It is the only place in Dublin I can get caviar". This was an exaggeration: his meal every night consisted of a plate of oysters and a pint of ale, followed by a beefsteak and a number of pots of strong tea.

To take revenge on the club he knelt every evening at angelus time in a window

looking out on Nassau Street and proceeded to say the rosary: the crowds outside answered the responses while apologetic members passed behind him on the way to the bar.

Some of the stories are almost unbelievable: did Lord Clonmel really respond to a beaming smile from Queen Victoria in Buckingham Palace with "Madam, I do know your face, but I cannot remember where I have met you"? Eccentric, yes, and delightfully so, but could the Irish landed gentry, with or without iron bowels, have been so impossibly bizarre? If so, they deserve to have lost and Hyde won.

Glyn Daniel

Tasty treats and cold cabbage

Humour



Now that we have all read *The Name of the Rose* we can join in what will surely be the party game this Christmas: guess what Aristotle thought about comedy. The witty old Stagite would certainly have deduced a number of laws and, had he read this year's crop of "funnies" been overwhelmed with pity and terror too.

His first law would surely be that funny-shaped books are not funny. Period. Second, last year's paper and magazine columns generally make very cold cabbage. *The Best of Peter Sarsfield* (Telegraph Publications, £4.95) just counts as an exception and even his fantasies are almost reality.

Third, collections of "true stories" offer only sporadic occasions for hysterical outbreaks of unrestrained sniggering. Gyles Brandreth's *The Bedside Book of Great Sexual Disasters* (Granada, £5.95) could be devastating if true, but we all know it's just a collection of jokes. If you fall about at the British boys are adopting the attacking position - Cox up", rush to the bookshop at once.

The outstanding exception is John Boyden's *Stick to the Music* (Hutchinson, £3.95). These conductors' tales have a ring of truth about them: perhaps because many are not so much funny as revealing.

Prevalent, finding the orchestra in boshy mood, finally cracked, screaming, "You think I know damn nothing! In fact I know damn all!" To Stalin,

Critics' choice 1984

The lake with hidden depths

Philip Howard

It depends what you mean by "enjoy", dear boy. I thought all the novels on the Booker short list were enjoyable in their different ways. And contrary to the bitch-in-the-manger grumbling that it is a miniaturist "women's" book, I found Anita Brookner's *Hotel du Lac* (Cape, £7.95) enchanting: moving, funny, witty, and profound about the human condition. For God's sake, J. K. Rowling was a miniaturist, with her little bit of ivory two inches wide that said so much more than other novelists' dirty great planks. Enjoy, enjoy, Julian Barnes's *Flaubert's Parrot* (Cape, £8.50), whose hero emerges shyly from the undergrowth only half way through, and David Lodge's *Small World* the best yet in the flourishing genre of academic romance.

Of the novels that did not make it onto the Booker short list, I thought Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus* about Fevers, the winged aerialist, and much else, was a brilliant extravaganza. Joseph Heller's *God Knows*, about David King of the Jews meditating on his death-bed, is an outrageous and clever mix of ancient and modern. For non-fiction, Ann Thwaite's literary biography of Edmund Gosse, a vivid resurrection job on the old literature. For poetry, the most important writing in the long run, *Station Island* by Seamus Heaney (Faber, £2.95).

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Covered in glory: Anita Brookner, Booker Prize winner

How to make fun of God

Tom Hutchinson

Science fiction being the art of the impossible, it is no surprise that the veteran Robert A. Heinlein should have conjured a new book in time for Christmas - and one of the most entertaining of the year, at that. At the age of 77, the well in him runs deep.

Job: A Comedy of Justice (New English Library, £8.95) shows that he can still play immensely readable past-cake with philosophical concepts - and makes us laugh. His corn is as high a rocket ship's porthole, but it is genuine humour. Here, Heinlein, himself from contemporary SF's Old Testament, takes on God and the whole apparatus of human belief systems.

Graham is a young theologian from a religiously-frenzied America; with the beautiful Margherita he finds himself shunted from one what-if world to another, without rhyme or reason. In final scenes, reminiscent of Heinlein's own *The Unpleasant Profession of Jonathan Hoag*, he comes to understand his own scapegoat, scapegrace God.

Heinlein's treatment of sex is as coy as that of other elderly American SF writers - why do they all revert to Thorne Smith? - but he's one of the very few masters who can dazzle you along labyrinthine ways you never thought you had entered. He makes it possible.

Landmarks in life stories

Fiona MacCarthy

In a good year for memoirs, which some of us devour like Fortnum's Bittern, I especially enjoyed Geoffrey Grogan's irrepressibly mardy *Recollections* (Chatto, £12.50), in which he finds a bad word to say for everyone, except, surprisingly, for the appalling Ruthven Todd. Angelica Garner's *Deceived with Kindness: A Bloomsbury Childhood* (Chatto, £9.95) is the story of her

convoluted upbringing at Charleston with Vanessa Bell, her well-disposed though rather off-hand mother, Duncan Grant, her secret father, and Virginia Woolf in rather a successful supporting role as aunt. It is beautifully written and admirably honest, a view of Bloomsbury which is refreshing and surprising.

Of new lives, or those I've finished (I suppose I must pass over Peter Ackroyd's T. S. Eliot, being only half way through), I enjoyed and admired greatly A. N. Wilson's revelatory biography *Hilaire Belloc* (Hamish Hamilton, £12.95). His great skill, apart from the ebullience of narrative - at which he is of course well-practised as a novelist - lies in the resurrection of long-forgotten coterie: suddenly, for instance, the Distributist movement seems absolutely fascinating. The huffing, puffing Belloc is a large and complex character drawn so sympathetically that even at his most obnoxious moments you remember that this was the creator of Henry King the string-chewer. A fine, humane and often extremely funny book.

Loser takes all but the bauble

John Nicholson

Booker books having received far more than their share of attention, let's ignore them. Pride of place instead for two Golden Oldies. Kingsley Amis's *Stanley and the Women* (Hutchinson, £8.95) was as good as anything he has written for years: dialogue *alpha* (of course), *alpha* beta for observation and wit. Saul Bellow was close to top form with *Him With His Foot In His Mouth* (The Allison Press/Secker & Warburg, £8.95). I relished the splendidly melodramatic conclusion to Janet T. Hospital's *The Tiger in the Tiger Pit* (Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95), a spirited family saga. David Leitch's unusual and immaculately written second volume of autobiography, *Family Secrets* (Heinemann, £8.95), was rightly acclaimed.

However, the book which gave me most pleasure this year

was William Boyd's *Stars and Bars* (Hamish Hamilton, £8.50), the painfully funny account of a shy Englishman's attempt to lose and find himself in America. Although his absence from the short-list annoyed me at the time, I now think it vital that Mr Boyd be kept well away from baubles like the Booker Prize. Winners tend to become lazy and self-satisfied. Being potentially our funniest writer, Mr Boyd is too precious to be risked. He needs to be kept mean and hungry, and must on no account be encouraged to take himself or the world seriously.

Simplicity that says so much

Robert Nye

If I say that of all living poets publishing in English none seems to me more clearly of major status than C. H. Sisson, then I am compelled to try and define what it is that constitutes the difference between good minor poetry and the something else that makes up greatness. This is difficult. I do not even like the word great, especially when it is used to make the poet in question seem some kind of magus.

Sisson can sound magisterial, certainly, but his *Collected Poems* (Carcanet Press, £14.95), published to mark his seventieth birthday, contains work which at its best does not preach or teach so much as unanswerably say:

*Language which is all our lies
has us on a skewer
Inept, weak, the grinding devil
of complacency, but sleep
Knows us for plants or
undiscovered worlds:
If we have reasons, they lie deep.*

That seems to me a perfect understatement of something understood, an excellently simple way of saying a hard thing. The lines have an overflow of moral authority, of verbal and more-than-verbal rightness - and perhaps it is that quality which distinguishes the great poet from the good minor ones? I think Charles Sisson is a great poet, and the evidence is there all through this remarkable book.

The softy with a sharp tongue

Isabel Raphael

My choice is Edmund Gosse, *A Literary Landscape* by Ann Thwaite. I knew one aspect of Gosse from *Father & Son*, another from Beerbolm's cartoons, another from a poem learned in childhood, but here I found a man of almost infinite variety, and an extraordinarily likeable one.

He truly loved the human race, and no one ever kept his friendships in such constant repair. He acquired an exceptionally nice wife (with a formidable chin), and no more tuft-hunter could have sus-

Tales of a temptress

Nicholas Shakespeare

Without doubt, the novel I most enjoyed was *The Camomile Lawn* by Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £8.95). It is her second novel; she started writing at 70 and has no fear of saying what she likes. The story follows five cousins through the Blitz. Everyone lives as though the next day will be their last and consequently has a pretty good time. Most memorable is the beautiful Calypso whose husband plants a wood of cherry trees that spell her name in spring. A novel about - and giving - rare pleasure.

A temptress is also at the heart of Namita Gokhale's *Pare: Dreams of Passion* (Chatto, £7.95), a first novel about the decaying lives and loves of rich Indians. I found it impres-

sive.

Christmas Books from Oxford

The Canterbury Tales

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Books for Christmas/3

Sympathy for the Celtic race

Martin Parr's picture of the Glenbeigh races in Co Kerry (left) is one of the atmospheric images in *A Fair Day-Photographs from the West of Ireland* (Phaidon, £5.95), with text by Fintan O'Toole. The book is a sympathetic account of the relationship between a Celtic community and the Great American Dream, with softly rotting Morris Minor wrecks in bogs, piety, civility and architectural innuendo. The Spanish-style High Chaparral farmer's ranch in County Mayo is a salutary reminder that the Celtic twilight was always rooted in mythology - a golden age counterfeited by English Victorians.

R.C.

as a garden. Edited by Richard Mabey, it is a beautifully illustrated anthology which explores the nature of man's relationship with the land and landscape around him: it is not another contribution to the conservation debate, dictating what we ought to do, but a sensitive exploration of our shared, personal and emotional response to the land.

Its contributors, who are neither countrymen nor ecologists, question assumptions about country and countryside and deftly reveal the contrary pulls of dependence and mas-

tery, starting a hundred trains of thought.

Some sections are too straightforwardly practical or, like Fay Weldon's, arouse my suspicions; among the best are poet Peter Levi's description of the nature of the perfect countryside, a vision perfectly complemented by Hamish Fulton's photograph of the foot-worn, sunken pathway from the Pilgrims' Way.

A new anthology of garden writing offers the chance to find a new viewpoint as well as to enjoy once more the old loves. Who can resist the temptation to turn straight to the index to see if his own particular favourites are shared?

Anne Scott-James's *The Language of the Garden* (Viking, £8.95) is liberally sprinkled with unlikely gems, although I could have done with a firmer editorial hand to hold the collection together. She shares my appreciation of the writings of Karel Capek, Wilfred Blunt and Reginald Farrer and has introduced me to new names such as John Carey, with his unequivocal, no-nonsense statement of the gardener's aversion to neighbourhood pets.

Two very different kinds of picture book provide a visual jolt to the imagination. Flowers will never appear quite the same again after reading *The Sex Life of Flowers* (Faber, £12.50). Bastiaan Meeuse and Sean Morris explore the extraordinary range of devices developed by plants to ensure the production of offspring.

We meet the helleborine that makes its insect pollinators drunk to ensure their co-operation, the magnolia-like calycanthus that provides food

parcels to tempt passing beetles, and even an aquatic weed which sends its pollen sailing off in little boats in search of female flowers.

The book's superb photographs, catching the detail of an insect on the wing or countless pollen grains flooding out from a single stalk of grass, reveal a world of adaptation as unsuspected as it is strange.

An altogether different and subtler vision is found in *Songs of the Garden* (Secker & Warburg, £17.50). Here word is subservient to image: the nature paintings of Kitagawa Utamaro, better known for his prints of Japanese courtesans, are linked to poems that, while seeming to relate only to the insects portrayed, speak also the words of love. First published in 1788 as the *Picture Book of Selected Insects*, the delicate studies reveal Utamaro's fascination for the plant life of the garden and an ability to capture a moment for all time.

Finally, we need to be able to laugh at our efforts. Help is at hand from Alan Tichmarsh's *Avant-Gardening* (Souvenir Press, £4.95), in which he pokes gentle fun at the one-upmanship that has crept into even this field of human endeavour. We may have recognized for ourselves certain fashion-following aspects of our gardening behaviour. He has seen it all, down to identifying which books we have (or have to have) on our bookshelves.

Ruth Stungo

Children, Royalty and Travel - page 14

criticizing him for a "not politically strong" concert, Coates replied: "I wouldn't accuse you of having unpolitical politics."

The fourth law is that collections of cartoons must be of Hoffnung standard to justify purchase. The latest Hoffnung, *Hoffnungesque* (Souvenir Press, £2.50), collects cartoons which have not previously appeared in books and adds old favourites from opera and Glyndebourne. Wonderful J. M. Thomson's *Musical Delights* (Thames and Hudson, £2.95) makes the grade for historical rather than hysterical reasons, with a fine collection of musical cartoons down the ages.

Fifth law: small glossy books (not joke-collections) are usually OK. They have to be because there is so little of them. Martin Leman's *Lovely Ladies* (Pelham, £4.95) sets love poems (Herrick to Ewart, Herrick to McGough) opposite delightfully naughty paintings. Which brings me to the real books. *Pride of Place* goes to Arthur Marshall's life's Rich Pageant (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95). His early life at Oundle, Cambridge and back to Oundle is rich in incident (weed from Stowe under heaving scum: "Humphrey, for pity's sake, you're standing on my hair"). But his lifelong love of the theatre and growing affair with the radio made the break with schoolmastering inevitable. Wholly lacking rancour, Marshall treats us to no piercing revelations of dark nights of the soul, thank God. There are occasional *longueurs* about close friends (Maurice Borer is, as usual, "brilliantly clever and funny", without a joke in sight) and the odd risqué aside rings false, but this book made me laugh more than any other.

Meanwhile, all the Bufton Tuftons of this world are given a second run-out from the letters pages of *The Times* in *The Second Cuckoo* (Unwin, £2.95), which is nearly as funny as the first. Its excellent index enables you at once to locate topics as central to Life Today as earwigs ("unique among insects for their personal sense of maternal duty"), cricketers' initials, rugby balls, greasy gloves for handling, and history, sense of, expressed by Post Office officials. The index alone is worthy of Beachcomber.

Ned Sherrin's *Cutting Edge* (Dent, £8.95) presents a problem. It would take an Oscar

Wilde to make a book out of a series of famous one-liners, and Sherrin is soon reduced to the "and now here is something else extremely funny that X said when..." formula. The book lacks an index, so is useless for reference purposes. But the sheer volume of high-class gags tips the balance (Mark Twain on dead politicians: "I did not attend his funeral, but I sent a letter saying I approved of it").

Finally, Henry Blofeld's *Caught short of the boundary* (Stanley Paul, £6.95) covers experiences far richer than those in the... cr. box. Blofeld spends merry nights nude in lifts and brutalized in New York jails. There is one excellent joke. Bill O'Reilly, commending a bowler who ran out a backing-up batsman without warning him, was asked if he would have done that sort of thing. His answer? "When I was bowling I never met anyone that keen to get to the other end."

Peter Jones

Digging into fresh ideas

Gardening



Each season the gardener is offered new plants, new chemicals and new gadgets to promote growth or defeat pests and diseases. Much less is on offer in the way of new ideas.

Gardening, like cookery, spawns recipe books, instruction manuals which at first glance seem to do no more than teach us how we can do as well as the experts. At the same time, however, they convey in an insidious way the defeatist idea that the subject is difficult. Without really being aware of what is happening, we come to



assume the need for an example to follow, rather than relying on and encouraging our own imagination.

So we are offered another manual for raising the perfect rose, or annual, or whatever today's preferred group of plants may be - as if perfection lies in size alone; or it may be a do-it-yourself book to create our own Villandry, or Elizabethan herb garden, no matter what shaped patch we have to call our own.

When will today's gardeners look a bit more closely at what it is we are up to? When will they begin to grapple with the

fundamentals, unearthing the assumptions and unrecognized beliefs buried in this most popular of British pastimes, clarifying what it is that impels so many to spend so long at such back-breaking and sometimes unrewarding toil?

Only then will gardening be of our own time, instead of adapting past success to present need, while having a careful look to see what the neighbours are up to. In place of books such as Rosemary Verey's *Classic Garden Design* (Viking, £14.95), a handsomely produced manual to assist in the re-creation of whichever bit of garden

history's past you currently favour, or David Bellamy's much vaunted *The Queen's Hidden Garden* (David & Charles, £12.95), an over-expensive exercise in behind-the-scenes revelation, whose chaty style marries ill with its curiously banal illustrations, more writing is needed which will provoke, first, thought and then action.

Second Nature (Jonathan Cape, £12.50), is the book that comes closest to achieving that among the festive season's offerings. In Horace Walpole's wonderful phrase, it keeps the garden fence and sees all nature

Read everyone like a book this Christmas

sively detached and often haunting.

This was the year the world discovered Norman Lewis, a man who likes wearing a novelist's hat, but who was recently dubbed the greatest travel writer since Marco Polo. The world Lewis discovers in *Voices of the Old Sea* is a remote Spanish fishing village where he spent three seasons after the war. Lewis writes with Mediterranean clarity and colour and he sees into the depths of things. From them he rescues - effortlessly, freshly, and without the fisherman's habit of exaggeration the superstitions, vendettas and vices of a fisherfolk community now submerged by tourism. A marvellous, iridescent epitaph.

New lines in nightmares

Andrew Sinclair

Empire of the Sun is the most original novel of the year. J. G. Ballard has put together his apocalyptic visions of the future with his own sufferings as a boy prisoner of the Japanese in China. As in *High Wind in Jamaica*, the child's ignorance and acceptance of his nightmare conditions make them tolerable to the reader.

A Minor Apocalypse by Tadeusz Konwicki (Faber & Faber, £8.95) is another description of a nightmare. It is Warsaw today, and a writer wanders drunkenly towards his self-immolation. This is a novel of dry mirth and black humour, in which survival itself is something of a joke.

As rich and visionary of another time is Peter Vansittart's *The Tournament* (Peter Owen, £8.95). It recalls the sumptuous, sensual and fearful world that Huizinga described in *The Waning of the Middle Ages*. Vansittart remains our most singular historical novelist with an ability to recreate and undo time past as carefully as Penelope's Web.

Memorial to Times past

Philip Toomey

The History of The Times, 1939-1966, by Iverach MacDonald (Times Books, £20). They were giants in Printing House Square in those days, and I was there for two of those years. For biographies, note Hilary Spurling's marvellous feat with Ivy Compton-Burnett's *Secrets of a Woman's Heart* (Hodder & Stoughton, £14.95), followed by more privacy in Jane Aiken Hodge's investigation of a best seller in *The Private World of George Heyer* (Bodley Head, £10.95). A Very Private Eye, the autobiography of Barbara Fyn is surely the saddest book of the year. For novels, I choose Anita Brookner's *Hotel du Lac*, Penelope Lively's *According to Mark* (Heinemann, £8.95), Catherine Heath's *Behaving Badly* - a gem - (Cape, £7.95), all social comedies with an icy

draught of unhappiness. Adrian Henri's *Eric the Punk Cat* (Magnet, £1.50) features a dreadful moggy's rise to riches and fame as a pop star, and Charles Keating's *Sammy Streetsinger* (Oxford, £4.95) has a human being doing the opposite. For sheer pleasure, I pick out Needlepoint designs from Asia, by Gay Ann Rogers (Robert Hale, £12.95).

Help at hand for the malignant

Hugo Vickers

Who Was Who, A Cumulated Index 1897-1980 (A & C Black, £32) has proved an unlikely godsend. The last thing the ensnared biographer needs after five years' research on a book is to languish in jail for six months on a charge of criminal libel. This wonderful book lists all the entrants of *Who's Who* who have died between 1897 and 1980 from Alvar Aalto to the Rev Samuel Zwemer.

It gives dates of birth and death, thus providing the perfect instant footnote, and refers one to the relevant edition of *Who Was Who*, which now extends to seven volumes, decade by decade. Thus the biographer knows at a glance whose secrets he can reveal and which national figures he can malign without fear of retribution. Indeed it is my ambition to find my way into volume 14 of *Who Was Who*, which will cover the decade 2041 to 2050.

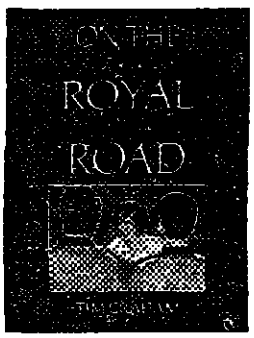
No such book will be published if the worst fears expressed in Caroline Blackwood's *On the Perimeter* (Flamingo, £1.95) come to be. This is the book about the Greenham Common wimmin on the wire. Her description of the trial scene and the scarlet-faced magistrate with cotton wool sideburns made me laugh out loud to the astonishment of the other self-conscious and disapproving diners in the restaurant of a country hotel.

Style that never goes stale

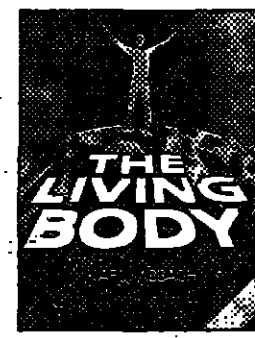
Woodrow Wyatt

Bernard Levin is the best living essayist. Though *The Way we Live Now* (Jonathan Cape, £8.95) consists of reprints, they are as fresh and as apposite as the day they were written. For content and style they are an enduring pleasure and will last as long and as stimulatingly as the essays and criticisms of H. L. Mencken and Alexander Woolcott.

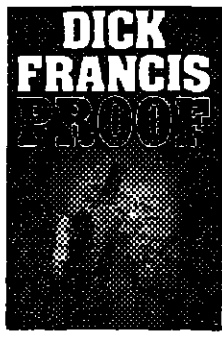
William Boyd is one of our most promising young novelists. His first novel, *Good Man in Africa*, was excellent if a little uncontrolled. *Stars and Bars* shows an increase in maturity with no decrease in entertainment. The adventures of Henderson Dore, an amorous English art dealer baffled and bemused in America, are more than hilarious; they contain truths about the British and the Americans worth recording.



On the Royal Road/Tim Graham/Nicholas/£9.95. A decade of photographing the Royal Family has led to a wonderful collection of photographs, both solemn and light-hearted, romantic and glamorous.



The Living Body/Karl Schlögl, with Christian Bannard/MacDonald/£12.95. The most exciting popular introduction ever published to the workings of the human body, combining over 300 colour illustrations with a clear account of all the body's major systems.



Proof/Dick Francis/Michael Joseph/£8.95. 'The absolute sureness of his settings, the freshness of his characters, the terrifying closeness of violence... all these make him one of the few writers who can be read in the same breath as Fleming.' Philip Larkin in the Observer.



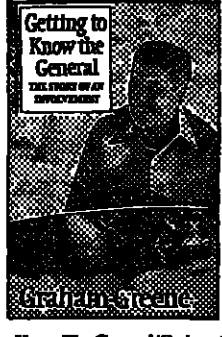
Nights at the Circus/Angela Carter/Canto & Winkler/£8.95. A strange and wonderful novel starting a most unlikely heroine - Fanny, the Cockney Venus together with a cast of thousands.



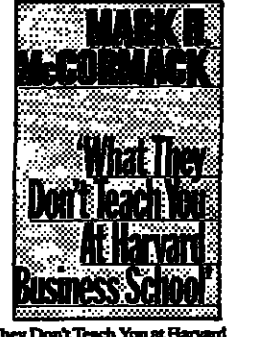
Ovett-An Autobiography/Collins Willow/£8.95. The autobiography of a very private public figure, revealing much that the media could only guess at.



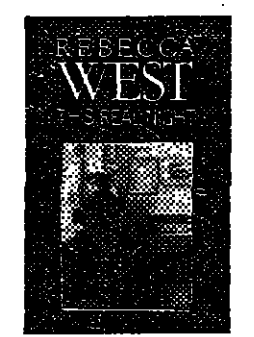
Money/Martin Amis/Jonathan Cape/£8.95. Set in 1981 in London and Manhattan, Money is Martin Amis' most startling and ambitious novel yet.



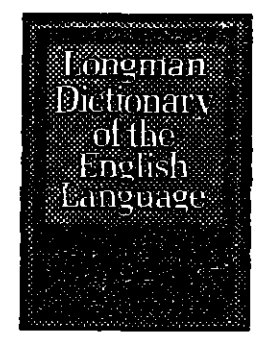
Getting to Know the General/Graham Greer/Bodley Head/£8.95. Graham Greer's account of a five year personal involvement with Omar Torrijos, ruler of Panama from 1968-81.



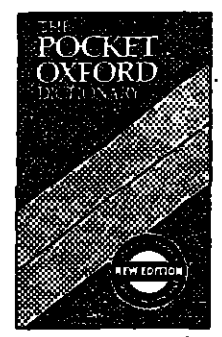
What They Don't Teach You at Harvard Business School/Mark H. McCormack/Collins/£7.95. My main purpose in writing this book is to fill in all the gaps - the gaps between a business school education and the street knowledge that comes from the day-to-day experience of running a business and managing people. Mark H. McCormack.



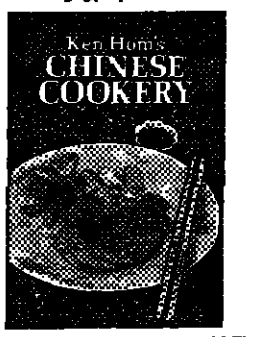
This Road Night/Rebecca West/MacDonald/£8.95. A magnificent and deeply moving novel that shows the author writing from the depths of her heart and at the height of her formidable skills.



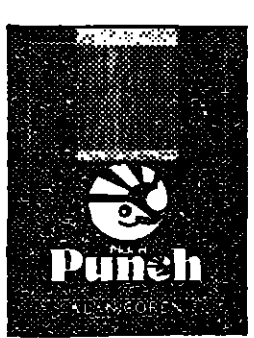
Longman Dictionary of the English Language/Longman/£24.95. With over 225,000 clear and concise definitions and over 90,000 headwords, this must be the most comprehensive and up-to-date authority on English used throughout the world.



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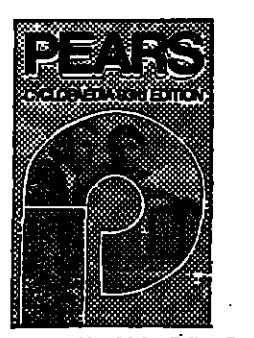
Pick of Punch/Ed. Allen Corns/Hutchinson/£8.50. What better way to celebrate getting through 1984 than to end up with the year's selections from Punch? Some of the best of British humour guaranteed to make even Big Brother smile.



Fellwalking With Wainwright/Michael Joseph/£12.95. 18 of the author's favourite walks in Lakeland re-visited, described and superbly matched by the wonderful photographs of Derry Bebb.



Benson and Hedges Cricket Year - 3rd Edition/Ed. David Llewellyn/Fleming/£12.95. This book provides a complete record of all first-class cricket played around the world from October 1983, to the end of the English season in September 1984.



Pears Cyclopaedia 93rd Edition/Pearson Books/£19.95. This latest edition of Pears provides an authoritative yet highly readable analysis of the complex problems of the 1980's.

WHSMITH CHRISTMAS

Prices correct at time of going to press. Subject to availability. Products shown not to scale.

Books for Christmas/4

Grandfathers in the limelight at a time when comedy is king

The English picture book is under siege from grandfathers. They tell yarns, as in James Stevenson's *What's Under My Bed?* (Gollancz, £4.95), where a regulation palliative tale about being afraid of the dark careers off into frenzied comedy. Or they listen to yarns, as in Jenny Koralek's *Mabel's Story* (Patrick Hardy, £5.50), where Grandpa is equally to improvisations from his granddaughter, whose epic narration about being towed aloft to meet the King of Snow has the immense good fortune to be illustrated by John Lawrence.

By contrast, grandfathers may also do apt service in the currently fashionable *memento mori* literature for children. John Burningham's *Grandpa* (Cape, £4.95) skilfully avoids the usual coy or sentimental ham-fistedness of this fustian genre. The detached incidents and the seemingly inconsequential exchanges that make up each double-page spread are planned to enhance the poignancy when, at the end, little child confronts empty, Gumpy-less armchair. Even so, I'm inclined to think that the very subtlety of the method turns the book into an unseasonable lesson for the aged rather than a revelation for the young.

Anthologists figure strongly in the lists as well as grandfathers. One of the true bumper books of the season is *The Walker Book of Poetry for Children*, edited by Jack Prelutsky and illustrated by Arnold Lobel (Walker, £9.95). As should be apparent from the credits, the enterprise is not so much Walker of London as Random House of New York, but those names guarantee the brimming energy that has gone into the selection and illustration of the 572 poems for today's child. Should stand tomorrow's child in good stead too.

Less impressive - partly because they are more derivative - are two American nursery collections: the cleverly chosen *Jump All the Morning; a child's day in verse* (Viking Kestrel, £5.95) and the lushly gothic *Baby's Bedtime Book* (Collins, £4.95) a dozen lullabies with

Children



pictures by Kay Choro; while top book of the class for older children is the spiky, frivolous, witty collection of Adrian Mitchell's poems, *Nothingness Day* (Allison & Busby, £3.95). These are intriguingly illustrated with little woodcuts by John Lawrence, all of which have been cannibalized from a great big, composite Daddy Woodcut.

Picture books and poetry come naturally to recommenders of Christmas books for children, but starker prose is a different matter. I can see every reason for commending Alan Garner's *Book of British Fairy Tales* (Collins, £8.95) with its mock-Celtic illuminations by Derek Colford. No one has a better eye for a story or a better ear for how it should be told, and Garner has much respect for the traditional manner of his sources; but this does mean that you won't find any of the genteel obfuscations of the supermarket versions.

Cosiness and comfy humour are often more rewarding touchstones for writers than tradition. What a pleasure, for instance, to find Ursula Moray Williams bringing together the nursery heroes from two of her past books and giving them an adventure to share that you know their noble natures will surmount. The further Adventures of Gobbolino and the Little Wooden Horse (Puffin Original, £1.50) illustrated by Pauline Baynes.

A pleasure too, to find Dick King-Smith producing his fun-

niest book yet: *Harry's Mad* (Gollancz, £5.50), illustrated by Jill Bennett. The comedy of the present book derives much less from very ordinary Harry of Greenwich than from the antics of Madison, a sagacious parrot bequeathed to him by a New York professor of linguistics. (Indeed, at one crucial moment the bird is heard to mutter "You ain't seen nothing yet.") There is different, but equally satisfying comedy in Gene Kemp's *The Well* (Faber, £4.95) - though you wouldn't guess so from the book's ugly and inappropriate jacket. There's not much plot - just a series of vignettes recollections from the author's childhood in the 1930s - but every character and every event is brought alive with admirable skill, so that the reader is drawn into the child's world, to enjoy vicariously the small *splendours et miseres* of a family life that lies closer to the stories of E. Nesbit than to those of our own fragmented times.

That past world is summoned up too in a daring revival: Douglas Munro's abridged translation of Hector Malot's *Sans Famille*, *The Foundling* (Canongate, £5.95). Writers for children today (except for Joan Aiken) have neither the stamina nor the innocent love of storytelling for its own sake, to create large canvases like this.

It depicts the journeyings of Remi, the foundling, through France and England - resiliently coping with the contrivances of both disaster and good fellowship. Not the least of the surprises in the presentation of this leisurely, old-fashioned narrative are Alan Harris's illustrations, which look like a heavy-handed attempt to capture the style that the indefatigable Brothers Brock used to apply to so many picaresque romances.

Also recommended: *The Holy Night* by Selma Lagerlöf, illustrated by Dominique Leclaire (Abelard, £4.95). Mannered in style and presentation, but true to the author's original vision. The best of this season's "Christmas books".

A book of Nursery Rhymes by Jane Johnson (Black, £4.95). An unusual selection of riddling rhymes, with the answers set in closely detailed paintings in various historical modes. Dolly, the story of a London mouse by Jenny Thorne (Macmillan, £4.95). Mouse-love



Victorian visionaries

The current reassessment of the history of photography has produced a masterpiece of scholarly photographic publishing in *The Golden Age of British Photography 1839-1900* (Aper-

ture/Phaidon, £37.50). It contains a stunning collection of more than 50 examples of early photography including this 1865 portrait of Jane Morris, posed by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, from the eponymous album at the Victoria and Albert Museum. The book also provides compelling evidence of the role

played by the early British travel photographers, among them Francis Frith and John Thomson who resourced obsolete the standard topographical engravings of Egypt and China, thus redefining the public's view of exotic places.

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laughter at mouse-traps, and at Ma and Pa Mouse too. A lovingly detailed picture book set in a heavily scrubbed and shampooed eighteenth century. Toot, Toot and Whose Shoes? by Brian Wildsmith (Oxford University Press, 95p each). Two new titles in a series of witty picture paperbacks that show Wildsmith's talents at their best.

Keay, in *Highland Drive* (John Murray, £9.95), re-created a token drove of 30 handsome, long-horned shaggy Highland cattle. With four friends, three ponies, three dogs and a lot of good-natured sponsorship they set out from Skye for Crieff.

Although it was a nice way to see the country they found that the graceless acres of sitka spruce planted by the Forestry Commission and the odious scarring roadworks of the Hydro Electric Board frequently made the old drove routes hard to follow.

Unlike the old drovers, who were rough, dirty, and tough and lived on porridge and drams, John Keay's lot had tents, adequate food, and a Land-Rover. They had their own vet, dog-handler and stockman and were able to scout ahead and change their road when necessary. The beasts got sore feet, and a foot bath had to be taken along. Their horns became soft and droopy because of a feeding deficiency, quickly put right by a sponsoring manufacturer. Even so it was a wet, hard grind, but aided by generous hospi-

ality and a daily ration of whisky, provided by a distiller, they arrived at Crieff.

The drovers had established a warm relationship with "the boys", who were promptly sold for record prices and turned into steak, to Julia's horror, and mine too.

Contran Goulden

A clutch of crowning stories

Royalty



The key to Queen Ena of Spain is blood. The first union since the Armada of a British princess with the Spanish royal house almost ended with a mass murder of royals at her wedding. The young Queen's dress was spattered with blood (a story she often related, usually with contradictions). Her own blood brought haemophilia to her sons, while Alfonso's hot Bourbon blood led to many infidelities (often in black satin sheets).

Gerald Noel, editor-in-chief of the *Catholic Herald* has written a convincing and well-researched life in Ena, Spain's English Queen (Constable, £10.95) wrapped, however, in a dismal and off-putting dust jacket. Mr Noel reveals that a superficial side to the Queen saved her from certain heartbreaks, while loyalty to Alfonso made her decline an offer to be Regent. She was impressive in exile and royally self-centred in old age.

There was clearly a need for the *Spencers of Althorp* (Constable, £12.95). Georgina Battiscombe, the distinguished biographer of Queen Alexandra, is the right historian to guide us down the line of thrifty sheepfarmers making advantageous marriages, via those who entered politics and public life

overcome by the sea. An atmospheric little tale, with fine illustrations by Gareth Floyd.

The Nutsell Library by Maurice Sendak (Collins, £4.95). Boxed set of four little books essential to the proper nurture of all Good Children. And it fits neatly into all Christmas stockings, too.

Brian Alderson

overcome by the sea. An atmospheric little tale, with fine illustrations by Gareth Floyd.

The drovers had established a warm relationship with "the boys", who were promptly sold for record prices and turned into steak, to Julia's horror, and mine too.

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Dent

Boozing, birds and badinage

It is not clear why Redmond O'Hanlon and James Fenton decided to drive into the Heart of Borneo (Salmonander Press, £10.95) unless it was to find a two-horned rhinoceros or to meet the Ukit, members of an obscure, shy, head-hunting tribe who fit about the inland areas of Sarawak.

It was a *Sunday Times*-sponsored two-man expedition, with three Dyak trackers, who waited on them and did most of the work. 22 SAS Regiment, at Hereford, gave them advice on jungle survival, and others recommended endless pills, powders and crutch disinfectants.

At first I thought I had come upon a rather coarse version of Billy Turner in Borneo, so concerned were the two of them with their frontal appendages, but once in the swing of their cross-talk I enjoyed my read.

O'Hanlon is, among other things a learned natural historian, while Fenton is a big, bald, poet, ex-Vietnam war correspondent, and *literateur*. Most of their time was spent bashing up the Balch River in a dugout canoe, camping on the bank and picking leeches, ticks and giant ants off their bodies while watching gorgeous butterflies sucking up their sweat; in between they read and slept.

They lived mainly on tasteless, boney smoked-fish, and sticky rice with an occasional monitor lizard, or a "Wrigley's" (O'Hanlon's terminology). They drank quantities of *tuak* (rice wine).

Redmond goaded James into witty ripostes and frequently teased him with practical jokes, interrupted his reading, and once saw him saved from drowning. They met many jolly girls, and such relations as they had with them were carried on by their interpreter, a man of considerable parts.

They did some song and dance acts. James gave some impromptu ballade recitals and told stories in the local long houses to large audiences. They frequently all got drunk together.

Meanwhile, using his somewhat fungus-fogged binoculars, Redmond recorded sightings and recognition of many splendid birds, including the male paradise flycatcher, the rufous-bellied kingfisher, the orange-bellied flower pecker, and various types of hornbill.

It is an amusing book wittily written and is close to a send-up of explorers' lives. O'Hanlon "wears his learning lightly". They never saw a rhinoceros and the only Ukit tribesman they met wanted to be taught the "seven-step disco". He already had a tape and recorder, but no battery.

Travel



Robin Hanbury-Tenison is a rather different kind of explorer. In *World's Apart* (Granada, £10.95) he gives the story of his, on the whole, very agreeable life. He likes to be alone, or to be headman of some large and important show. As a loner he simply likes to get there, and has passed through some interesting places with the minimum of fuss.

He drove to Sri Lanka with a mechanically-minded friend; he has quartered South America from east to west in a broken backed jeep, and from north to south partly in a claustrophobic car-splitting hovercraft, and partly by himself in an inflatable outboard. He has done Africa in parts, and visited a lot of tribes in Indonesia and Malaysia.

He is not short of guts or initiative and is now much concerned with the future of simple indigenous people on some of whom he has turned a searchlight. A gold medalist of the Royal Geographical Society, he is now president of Survival International whose aims are to deflect the influence of "civilized" society on tribal people. His book skims off the cream of his adventures and serves it up with the strawberries of his successes.

Last Days in Eden (Harvill Press, £12.50) is mainly remarkable for Hugo van Lawick's brilliant photographs of animals in action. The text by Elspeth Huxley is interesting in parts, but her prose is generally banal and stilted. A pity, for she flies a good kite for the future of the conservation of African wildlife.

If you want a holiday much nearer home you can visit "Our Oldest Ally". Anthony Hogg in *Travellers' Portugal* (Solo Mio Books, £4.95) lists several ways of getting there. His descriptions are bright and breezy, but sometimes rather trite. The book is full of interesting information and is particularly good on wine.

In the golden age of the Scottish Highlands the main wealth was beef, and "cows" were the main currency. At the height of the boom 150,000 beasts were sold at the great tryst at Crieff in Stirlingshire. Before railways were laid down they were walked from all over the country. Much has been written about the old droves and drovers, and after studying their history John and Julia

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'A heavenly book' is how A. L. Rowse described John Betjeman's *A Life in Pictures* by Bevis Hillier (£10.95) in the *London Standard*, and in *Queen Victoria in her Letters and Journals* (£15.95) Christopher Hibbert's selection includes much previously unpublished material.

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TRAVEL

Almost at home in Amigo Country

Ted Simon samples a new strategy for the conquest of Mexico, where tourism has struck gold

Even a dolorously high dollar will not deter some of us from wanting to visit America. Meanwhile, American holiday-makers are flying joyfully south in their millions to the land of the declining peso. Mexico has become the great holiday bargain in North America, which suggests that anyone intent on crossing the Atlantic, should visit Mexico.

It should not be hard to drum up interest in Mexico. Exotic images stretch the mind to accommodate the jostling crowd of Indian warriors, conquistadors, grotesque gods, pompous presidents and firing squads. Over the babble of singing Spanish and mariachi music drifts the sporadic rattle of gunfire, and the nose wrinkles to the aroma of bitter chocolate.

Museums and churches are packed with the legendary treasures that enflamed the appetite of Cortes. Restaurants enlame the palate with tortillas and burritos, tacos and enchiladas.

Much of Mexico's fascination lies in its closeness to its origins. It is only a few hundred years since the Spaniards supplanted other, totally different civilizations, and they still seem to exist together cheek by jowl. Churches squat ponderously on top of sacrificial pyramids, and Aztecs, Mayans, Zapotecs and Mixtecs are all around you.

Within the extremes of poverty and wealth in Mexico it is possible to find food and accommodation at almost any level. Rooms range from \$5 to \$100, meals from \$5p to \$20. Air travel within the country is cheap, buses are much cheaper.

Yet there are also problems to face from sudden immersion in a strange culture, ranging from language difficulties to the hazards of Montezuma's Revenge. For there are now two Mexicos: the real one, indicated above, and another, recently invented and known officially as "The Amigo Country". This obsequiously-named paradise was invented specifically to attract hordes of middle-class Americans.

At one place on the Pacific coast, about 50 miles north of Acapulco, the two Mexicos can be found side by side. Zihuatanejo, 15 years ago, was a poor village of some 3,000 people living off fishing, agriculture and timber. Behind it rose a wilderness of mountains and tropical forest. Some American hippies discovered it in the 1960s, and a few small hotels brought some more adventurous travellers, who found themselves in a paradise of beautiful beaches and primitive, almost cost-free living. Today, Zihuatanejo is a town of 35,000 people. On the cliffs above it, facing out over the bay, is a symbol of the massive corruption that is endemic to Mexican society. It is an unfinished replica of the Parthenon, built as a private villa by Durazo, the former Mexico City Chief of Police, now in Los Angeles awaiting extradition. In the shade of such an inspiring example newer entrepreneurs have been scrambling for sites in this new tourist gold-mine. The streets are crowded with boutiques and restaurants. The finest beach, Playa Roca, once deserted, is now lined from end to end by hotels and villas and, while still a fine beach, is now crowded.

One man, appointed by the Government, has the task of guiding Zihuatanejo's development and protecting Mexican values. Manuel Barros Nock, who views his prospects with despair.

The big money now comes in dollars, and with it all the seductive trappings of the American Way of Life - junk food, teenage autonomy, the disruption of traditional family and community patterns. "There is corruption everywhere," said Barros Nock. "It cannot be avoided. We are all corrupt. I am corrupt."

"Do you know De la Madrid, the President? I do. He is the most intelligent man I have ever met. If anyone could get us out of it he could, but it seems impossible. The conditions for



Old-style scenes: Blanket seller and blind busker

Resorts without poverty or filth

our corruption were created deliberately... of course, first by the Spaniards, then the other European powers, now the United States, manipulating the Mexican economy for their own benefit. Mexicans' paranoia is understandable with their immense dollar debt.

The irony of Barros Nock's situation is that the town's hot-house growth and rapid exposure for foreign influence follows directly from the Government's efforts to deal with that debt and earn more dollars.

The plane, direct from San Francisco, landed at Zihuatanejo's airport, and a taxi whisked us away to Ixtapa, where Amigo Country begins. A few hovels by the roadside were all we had to see of the real Mexico before the Hotel Camino Real unfolded us.

From any one of its 450 balconies the view from the Camino Real cannot be bettered. The unblemished blue of the Pacific Ocean stretches out to the horizon. Offshore, the eye wanders among a sprinkling of tiny islands, tastefully arranged, ringed by white surf, and inhabited only by birds.

Below lies a golden beach for the hotel's guests. The Camino Real is just the most exclusive of a series of luxury hotels in Ixtapa. Squamish Americans did not want to spend their holiday clutching their wallets and fending off beggars, so the Government came up with a fairly radical solution. Instead of trying to clean existing resorts, it decided that there would be new ones, without the

embarrassments of poverty, filth and corruption. A quango called Fonatur was set up to administer the plan, and the first scheme came to fruition off the tip of the Yucatan peninsula in 1970, on an almost deserted island at Cancun. It appears to have been a tremendous success, attracting dollars by the billion. Ixtapa followed later in the 1970s. There are plans in hand now for three more on the coast of Baja California, and later, the biggest of all on the Pacific coast close to Oaxaca.

The central feature of these resorts is that the hotels and facilities are built and managed to North American standards. The tap-water is drinkable. Only innocuous Mexicans are employed, and they wash their hands frequently. Everything the tourist requires is provided in the spot, at fixed prices. There is no haggling, no begging. Even the flies are interviewed.

These new sanitized hotels offer good value at present. At the Camino Real, a room with a sumptuous breakfast and an hour's free tennis thrown in costs \$70 for two. The restaurants are good, and reasonable.

A living for 100,000 Mexicans

But what these resorts all offer is a useful introduction to a longer and perhaps more arduous visit, a pleasant way to resolve jet lag and a sort of vaccination course against the bugs and mores of the real Mexico beyond.

Whatever may be said about corruption, these developments have provided work and prosperity. Every hotel room, it is calculated, supports 10 people, and Amigo Country has already provided a living for some 100,000 Mexicans. In another sense also, it may be recommended. With its own airports, and direct access from North America, it shunts millions of holiday-makers away from the more sensitive cultural centres of Mexico.

Oaxaca is a case in point. This colonial city is probably the best place for a foreigner to begin savouring Mexican life. It is relaxed yet big enough to lead a convincing life of its own, regardless of tourists. The magnificent square has collared restaurants and cafes on all sides. There are gardens, paths and benches where Mexican families come to spend tranquil evenings.

The church of Santo Domingo is among the finest of baroque buildings, one of the few churches with enough aesthetic control to master the profusion of gold. Oaxaca's markets are immense, extravagant and magical. And the Hotel Presidente, housed in the ancient convent of Santa Carolina, must be one of the most charming in the world, as well as being modestly priced (although it ruined my shirt).

We stayed three nights at the Camino Real, and by then I was eager to move on. As I sat rather disconsolately alone in the restaurant after our small boy had been taken to bed in disgrace, the head waiter approached with a sympathetic smile and said in English: "Ah. Another miserable day in paradise."

"Where did you get that line?" I asked. He told me about the trawler captain, from Seattle



who had come to stay in the hotel for four months. Every morning as he moved from his bed to his hammock with his breakfast of rum and Coke, that was what he said. We shortened it to AMDIP, and it became our watchword.

Obviously there are some who, once in Amigo Country, will never want to leave. For them it's AMDIP, amigo, and amen.

A couple with one or two small children staying at the best hotels might spend from \$40-95 a day. For a single person the bottom line is about £7.50. Air fares: KLM flies to Mexico City via Amsterdam. Apex return £576, 1st class, £1,778 (01-508 9144). Zihuatanejo has many reasonable hotels from Casa Elvir, at \$6 a night to the excellent Villa del Sol on the Playa Roca, \$98 for two including dinner and breakfast.

Agents and operators in fight against profit tax



British travel agents and tour operators are set to fight the threat of value-added tax on inclusive holidays within the Common Market countries. The new tax was foreshadowed several years ago in an EEC directive, but European travel agency organizations managed to delay its introduction until January 1, 1986.

The Association of British Travel Agents aims to delay it still further. Mr Michael Elton, the association's chief executive said VAT on inclusive holidays would do "incalculable damage" to tourism within the community, while Mr Dermot Blastland, Thomson Holidays' commercial director, has warned that EEC member countries like France or Italy would lose tourists to their non-EEC competitors like Switzerland or Austria.

Four operators are particularly concerned about VAT on foreign holidays because of the planned entry of Spain and Portugal into the EEC. However, the plan as currently drafted means that operators would have to levy VAT only on their profit margins and not on the total cost of the holiday.

Pay now, save later

More operators have come up with special offers to protect holidaymakers against surcharges on 1985 holidays. Fair, which is owned by British Airways, says it will not impose surcharges on any holidays booked before January 31, after which prices may be increased by up to 10 per cent.

Exchange Travel has given a guarantee against surcharges on its holidays to Cyprus, Malta and Gibraltar departing in April, May and June for all bookings made before January 7. It will also guarantee the price of holidays departing between July and October and booked before January 7, provided that a deposit of £140 per person is paid instead of the normal £40. Global Overland has guaranteed that no surcharges will be levied on its coach, air/coach and rail holidays in 1985.

Free for the children

A French-owned hotel chain, Sofitel, is offering free rooms to children over the Christmas and New Year. Parents booking a room in Sofitel's 20 four-star hotels in France, Belgium and The Netherlands between December 20 and January 3 can have up to four youngsters accommodated without charge - and there is no restriction on the children's age. Information from travel agents or from Sofitel on 01-724 1000.

Dinner in Dunkirk

Passengers travelling to Dunkirk on Sally Line's Christmas shopping ferry service are being given the chance to win a free weekend or restaurant meals in France. Until December 23, day trip passengers will be given tickets entitling them to take part in a daily draw, with a weekend for two in Dunkirk as first prize and lunch or dinner for two as the second prize.

A taste of country life

Winter short-break holidays at farmhouses all over the country are listed in a new leaflet published by the Farm Holiday Bureau. It contains details of nearly 250 farms, with prices starting at about £20 per person for dinner, bed and breakfast for two days. The leaflet is available from the bureau, which is based at the National

Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV3 2LZ (send 17p stamp).

Non-stop to Toronto

The Canadian charter airline, Wardair, is to operate a weekly non-stop service from Leeds/Bradford airport to Toronto next year, from May 7 to October 28. Return fares will range from £304 to £358, excluding Canadian airport tax.

Package for the pack

Luxury weekend packages for international rugby fans are being laid on this winter by the five-star Gleneagles Hotel, Perthshire, to tie in with the games at Murrayfield, on February 2 and March 2. The £210 price includes two nights' accommodation, a cocktail party, dinner at the hotel, travel by luxury coach to Murrayfield for cocktails and lunch and a seat in the new east stand. Information from Gleneagles Hotel on 07646 2231.

Express service

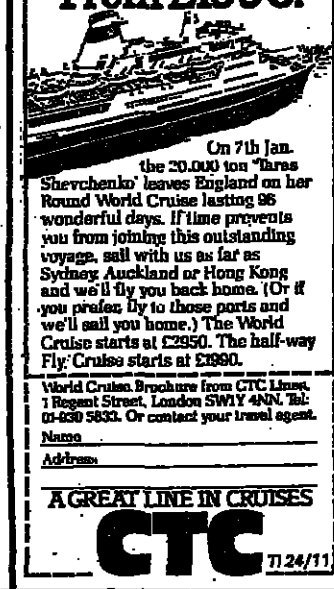
American Express has produced a Ski USA programme for the first time, offering seven-night holidays in some of the country's best skiing areas: Park City (Utah) from £470; Vail and Beaver Creek (Colorado) from £535; and Jackson Hole (Wyoming) from £635. Prices include scheduled flight by TWA, accommodation, lift pass, transfers and all taxes.

Heading for the poles

Cruises to both the Arctic and Antarctic are included in the 1985-86 programme for Safair's 19,000-ton Astor. In July it will sail from Edinburgh on a 16-night cruise to the Faroes, Iceland and the west coast of Greenland fares start at £1,170. The Antarctic cruise in November involves a flight from London to Cape Town, where Astor is joined for a 19-night cruise to Tristan da Cunha, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. Fares, including the flights between London and Cape Town, start at £2,320. Details from travel agents or from Safair, St Mary Axe House, 56/60 St Mary Axe, London EC3 8BH (01-283 3088).

Philip Ray

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DRINK

Marvels from Germany's Indian summer

German wine is its own worst enemy. Last year, 89 million litres were exported to the UK, a small percentage of this was fine estate wine, the remainder being drossy, flabby Liebfraumilch, Rudesheimer Rosengarten and dubious EEC blends with their bogus labels in Gothic script.

Despite the lack of popular appeal of the more common varieties, British merchants find it increasingly difficult to buy great German wines made from the Riesling grape grown in steep vineyards which are arduous to maintain. Every year, more German growers turn away from these traditional sites to the low-lying vineyards planted with early-ripening, big cropping cross-breed grapes whose quality will never enter the first division. Germany's recent run of bad vintages has not helped the situation and it is easy to forget that they only produce good vintages every four years on average.

Luckily, Germany's superb 1983 vintage will do much to restore her vinous reputation, even if we have had an unusually long seven year wait since the last fine vintage in 1976. It is vital to lay in sufficient stocks to tide you over until the next good year, since the 1984 vintage has been such a disappointment.

At one point the 1983 vintage looked none too happy after the dramatic spring frosts along the Moselle, but the June flowering took place in hot, dry weather which continued throughout July and August, at which stage the small immature grapes

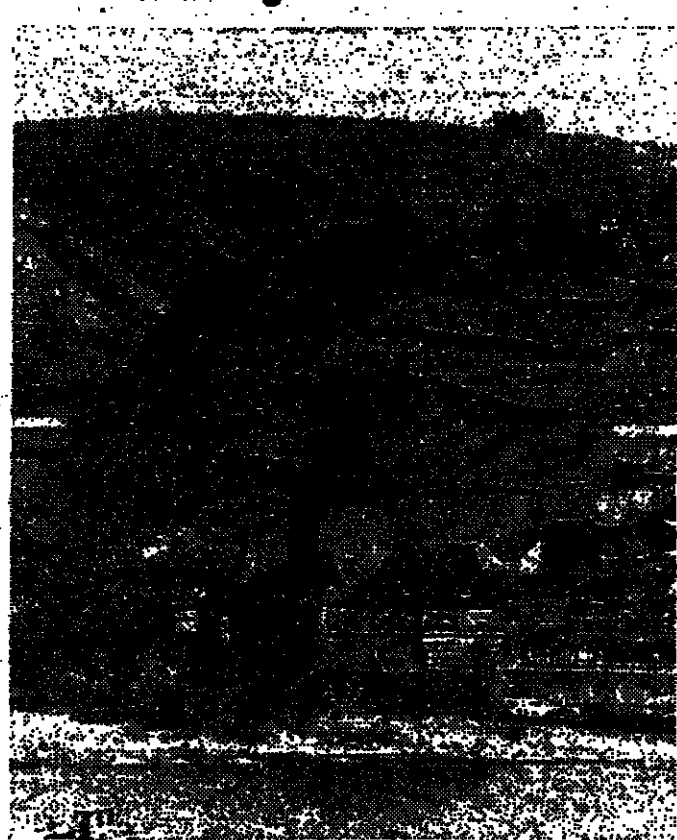
needed water. Rain duly arrived at the beginning of September, interspersed with further hot weather which soon swelled and ripened the grapes to complete maturity — a rare occurrence in Germany.

1983 was the year of the Riesling, whose late-ripening grapes took full advantage of Germany's Indian summer, which lasted until October, but the early-ripening cross-breed grapes were picked earlier, before ripening in the late warmth.

German wine buffs are now comparing the '83s with the excellent '75s and even the magnificent '71s: there was little edelfaule (noble rot) in '83 and '76 was marked by its intensely sweet odelfaule wines. Judging by some of the superb single estate '83s I have tasted, I feel that many of the '83s could well match the '71s. Their intense flavour and marvellous balance of fruit, acidity and sweetness is remarkable. The finest '83s, like the '71s, will mature for 10 years or more.

The Moselle and Nahe has made the finest '83s with some Kabinett, but mostly wines of the Spätlese and Auslese quality with little in the sweetest categories of Beerenauslese and Trockenbeerenauslese due to the lack of noble rot. On the Rhine, the Rheingau and Rheinhessen region has a similar pattern whilst the Rheinfalz has managed to make wines up to the Beerenauslese standard.

Many firms have opening offers of the '83 German wines, including Adnams, Justerini & Bros, Corney & Barrow and Avers of Bristol. Adnams' list



Steeped in tradition: A vineyard by the Rhine

is mostly devoted to the well-made Deinhard wines of which the '83 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese (Adnams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk, £8.97), must be one of the best. Corney & Barrow have a delightful, elderflowerly Kiedricher Gräfenberg Riesling Spätlese (Corney & Barrow, London EC1, £6.67).

Once again, the widest range of the finest wines at the cheapest price per case is offered by Henry Townsend (Chalk Pit House, Colleshill, Amersham). With three dozen

'83s to choose from, star is the intense, green, zippy Trittenheim Apotheke Riesling Auslese from the Friedrich Wilhelm Gymnasium (£62.64 per case) in the Moselle, but I also enjoyed the lively, flowery and verdant '83 Ockfener Geisberg Riesling Spätlese from the same estate (£46.32).

The famous C. von Schubert Ruwer estate of Maximin Grünhaus has produced some fine '83s especially the intense, rich Riesling of the Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese (£66.84). From the Nahe the Staatliche Weinbaudomäne at Niederhausen-Schlossböckelheim has produced a fine wine — the rich, peachy and intense Münsterer Dautenpflanz Riesling Auslese (£75.72) and the von Buhl estate in the Rheinfalz has produced a wonderful spicy Deidesheimer Leinhöhle Riesling Spätlese (£54.84).

I also enjoyed the two fragrant Erbacher wines from Schloss Reinhartshausen in the Rheingau with the fragrant lively and spicy Siegersberg Riesling Kabinett, a good buy, priced at £45.96, while the Rheinhell Riesling Spätlese (£62.28) had an intense rich and full, indeed almost caramelized, fruit flavour.

The minimum order of Henry Townsend's excellent German '83 wine offer is one case of any one wine but all prices quoted include duty, VAT and delivery on any mainland UK address. But be quick about it for the offer closes on Friday.

Jane MacQuitty



What else would you serve with the strawberries but the finest cream?

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And no wine goes so naturally with strawberries as Osborne Cream Sherry.

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IN THE GARDEN

Pots of pleasure for the lean months to come

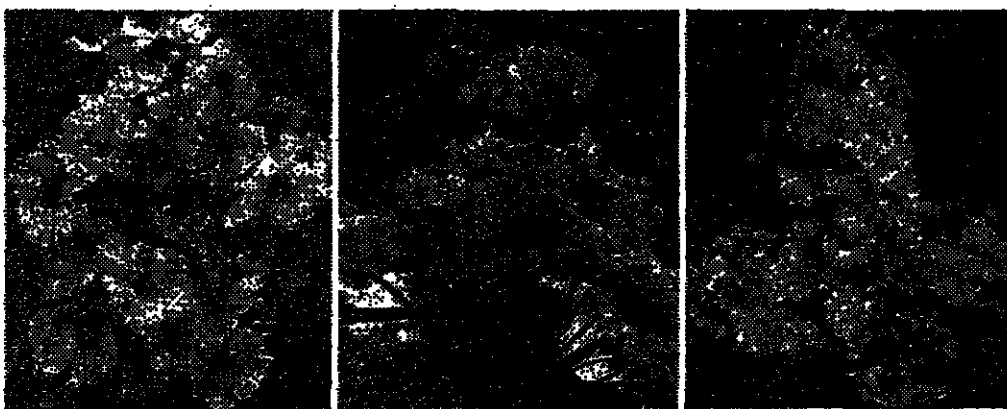
Primula seed is so fine that it will scatter far and wide. But don't let this deter you, as unlike many other winter-flowering pot plants, primulas are easy to raise from seed. Flowering time is not quite with us, and although it is possible to have them in bloom before Christmas — or at almost any other time of the year — they should be planned to flower in January, February or March, when there is little else around in the way of winter colour.

The best species to grow are *Primula obconica*, *Primula malacoides* and *Primula sinensis*. There are minor variations in the care they should have, but all need greenhouse or at least protected growing conditions and the temperature in the winter should not drop below 45°F. All are perennials but once they have flowered they are usually thrown away and fresh seed sown.

P. obconica can cause a rash

on some people, myself included, and anyone with allergies of this kind should beware. *P. malacoides* and *P. sinensis* do not, so far as I am aware, cause rashes.

For Christmas-flowering plants seed should be sown for the *obconica* forms in late May to early June. All three species can be sown at intervals from May onwards and if four weeks are allowed between sowing a succession of plants will be produced for the home. Sow into a good seedling compost, such as Levington or Arthur Bowers. But primulas like cool growing conditions with a moist root run, and for this reason John Innes seedling composts can sometimes give better results than their soilless counterparts. Make sure the compost is moist but not wet before sowing; watering after sowing is likely to wash the tiny seeds about in the pot. A little very dry silver sand added to the seed packet and thoroughly mixed, will make even distribution over the pot or pan



Winter warmers: (from left) *Primula obconica*, *P. sinensis* and *P. malacoides*

surface easier. Because of the delicacy of the seed it should not be covered; sieve dry silver sand over the pot or pan to hold it in place. Do not cover with soil.

Place the pot in a warm greenhouse or room, in a temperature of 55-60°F. Make sure it is not placed in direct sunlight and cover with a sheet of glass or a polythene bag to ensure the top of the pot does not dry out. Good light is needed. Germination does not take long if the seed is viable, and, at this stage some recommend a light sprinkling of soil or peat over the germinating seedlings to ensure they do not dry out. I prefer to keep a close eye on the seedlings as it is quite difficult to make sure the

cover is very light and very even. As seedlings mature the pot must be kept shaded.

Allow the seedlings to grow steadily until they are big enough to handle — this is usually before the true seed leaves appear. Prick the young plants off into boxes at four rows with five plants space between per row, which will give them room to grow and quickly make plants big enough to be potted into bigger pots as soon as possible. You can also prick off directly into 2½ or 3in pots.

Growing on during the summer and autumn is the key to success. The plants must be kept shaded and growing at all

times, in a maximum temperature of 60°F. It is fatal to allow the plants to dry out, even one wilting can do untold damage.

Plants are ready to go into their final pots around now, if they have not already been potted on, do so as soon as possible as they will respond to the extra soil and feeding. Begin liquid feeding again four weeks later until the plants begin to die back, but never feed a dry plant.

Many plants in their final pots are throwing flowers already and these can either be encouraged or removed in order to produce bigger and more established specimens later.

Ashley Stephenson

Reds in the bed

Fruits are visually important in autumn and if they are, unlike the more common berries, so much the better. The *Eucrymus*, a family of woody plants, are noted for their fruit, although not all the species have it.

Most of the species require shade; few like full sunlight, but they will tolerate an open site if sheltered when the sun is at its height. Any good garden soil is suitable and they do not mind lime, but make sure that the soil lies between 6.5 and 7.5 on the pH range. *Eucrymus* can be grown in chalky areas prepared with an acidic soil. Pruning is not essential; simply cut them to keep them in shape, or if they are growing out of their site.

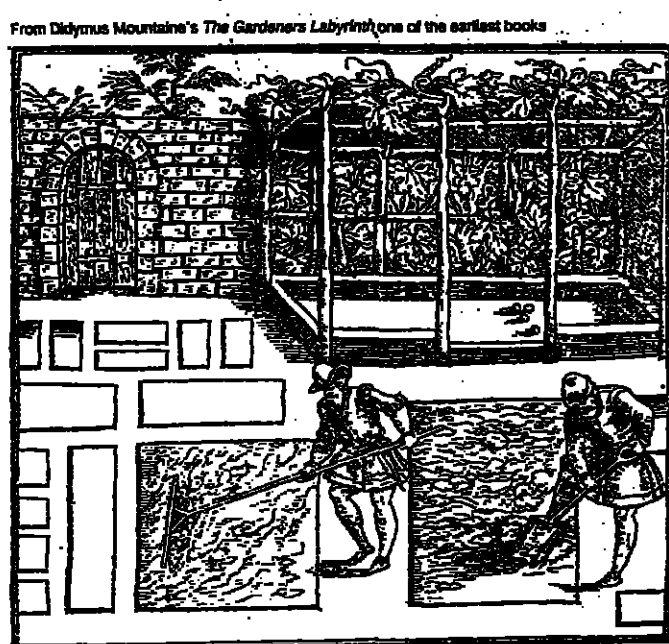


Euonymus Sachalinensis

The evergreen forms need even less pruning than the deciduous. The fruits, which remain on the plant for a long time, are very unusual: pendulous, usually highly coloured and composed of a

number of lobes, which are sometimes winged. There is an outer covering, the aril, which is bright and colourful.

Eucrymus europaeus, the Common Spindle tree, is magnificent when in fruit. The fruits are red and the aril orange; the *Albus*, which is difficult to obtain, has, as its name suggests, white fruits. *E. albus* has red seeds and the *E. yedoensis*, a deciduous form, has pink arils and orange-red seeds which remain on the plant long after the leaves have fallen. *E. sachalinensis*, which is also called *Albus*, is also deciduous, with fruits and arils which are nearly scarlet. Plants can be obtained from Notcutts or Hilliers and cost about 25 each.



Autumn tasks

Leaves are still clinging to the trees in central London, where we have had few frosts up to now. But the rest of the country is ablaze with rich autumn colours, and the leaf fall is in full swing. That means it is time to rake leaves from the beds and grass. If leaves lie heavily on lawns, they blot out the light and the grass will soon deteriorate — especially if it is wet. You must also make sure air can circulate freely between spring bedding plants.

Rake the leaves from the grass, then with a cane or pointed stick, flick them from between plants and on to the compost heap. Plant leaves should be shredded before they go on to the heap. Worms are active at this time of year and must be controlled as quickly as possible. Worm casts

left on the grass will spoil the lawn. Any approved worm killer will do, but those which kill the worms underground are better than those which act as irritants and bring worms to the surface. One of the most important autumn tasks is digging those parts of the garden that have been cleared of plants. Attack this work slowly. Except in a few cases single digging is all that is required, but you must have barrow manure where you think it is needed. Mulching is another job for this time of year. This keeps down weeds, keeps the soil moist and gives your garden a well-kept look. A soil mulch can offer protection for tender plants during the winter, but even more effective is a small wiggly mulch made of straw. This can be packed with straw and will keep out all but the worst of the winter cold and snow.

bottom spit add a liberal quantity of peat and mix this in, adding rotten manure if you think it necessary. Peat can also be included in the top spit with bonemeal added, either before or after planting, and raked into the soil. The soil is now ready. Always select good quality plants. They should have strong shoots and the buds should be plump in the leaf axils. Never use a dry plant. If it looks at all dry, give it a good watering. Never disturb the root system. If the root ball breaks and the roots are damaged, the plant rarely recovers. Plant at least an inch deeper than the top of the root ball and firm in well. Plants can be obtained through Treasures of Tanbury, Tanbury Wells, Wiltshire and will cost about 22 each.

Rioja and Christmas



At Christmas the tradition is of course Roast Turkey, but many choose Goose, Chicken, Duck, Beef or Game. Whatever the fare, hot or cold, drink a delicious Rioja wine, a velvety red or a dry fruity white. Don't forget those working in the kitchen! A glass of Rioja whilst preparing the family feast is always appreciated.

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Beryl Downing with some bright ideas for Christmas decorations

Setting a shining example

It will not be difficult for party givers to take a shine to their guests this year. Table as well as tree decorations have more sparkle than a sequin factory and all that glitters even includes fake food. There is a liberal sprinkling of illusion over the entire festival.

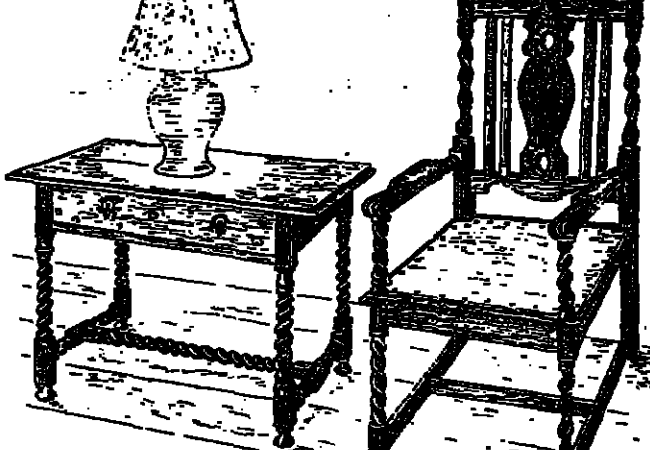
The most effective way of using all this glitter is to keep to one colour on the table and let yourself go with the tree. Theme trees always seem to me to be too self-conscious, as if you had lifted one straight out of a window display, so I prefer to load my tree with masses of colour linked with silver tinsel.

But party tables need more restraint if the food is to look its best and simple colour themes are the answer. Imagine setting your table entirely in white and silver - sparkling glass, white candles, silver tableware and mirrored baubles glistening like frost on a snowdrift. The food will look all the more colourfully tempting and the guests will all feel they have never been so brilliant.

For a dinner party you need low candlesticks which will not impede the cross-table chat. Courtier do petal-shaped glass holders at £2.50 each and Rosenthal have glass stars, 1in to 4 1/2in high, from £7.25 each. For a buffet setting, Boda's slim glass columns would make a striking focal point - there are two sizes, 11in at £19.50 and 15in at £19.95; all at Liberty.

If you like shaped candles, Habitat have French ones in the shape of stars or Christmas trees, both in red or green and about 6 1/2in high at £2.40 each - particularly long lasting, I am told. Or you could spread a little light on the subject with some shimmering kitsch - candles in the shape of slices of cake, £5.20 each, or sundae, £9.25, or individual trifles, £2.60, in

COLLECTING



Jacobean drama: Charles II yew table and 1920s oak chair

Cunning curls with a twist in their tale

"This little group," said the owner, "is really not to my taste. All those twisted legs remind me of a snake pit. I think they're for the chop."

"Chuck out the chair," advised the valuer, "but try to come to terms with the table. The chair is 1920s oak, in what is inaccurately known as the Jacobean style. The table is authentic Charles II yew-wood, about 1670."

"What would they be worth, if I sold them?"

"A dealer in what are cheerfully called shipping goods might, if in generous mood, give you about £50 for the chair. In all probability, it would then finish up behind a desk in Dallas or Düsseldorf."

"They're welcome. Keep Britain tidy, I always say. What about the table?"

"That should make £1,500 in a decent auction. Perhaps more. Any piece of early furniture in yew-wood is sought after and usually costs about double the price of the equivalent in oak."

"What's so special about yew-wood?"

"The colour and grain - that particular orange-brown tone, with the cunning little curl that you only get from burr wood, cut from a malformation on the tree-trunk."

"So that's what I've got. A table with twisted legs made from burr wood and a chair made from a malformation on the tree-trunk."

"Hang on, What, precisely, are stretchers?"

"The pieces that make up the H-shaped underframing. Don't you see how crisp those barley-sugar twists are, giving an impression of movement?"

"Well, yes, the legs do seem to spiral upwards in a lively sort of way. Like the cost of a mortgage."

"Or of yew-wood furniture. Whereas the twists on the chair look like leaves made out of dough without enough yeast."

"But what was the point of the twisty bits in the first place? I mean, in Good King Charles's golden days, or whenever it was?"

"Twists were carved by hand at first. But very soon, the turners learned to fashion them on the lathe, using a jig and tool."

"Clever little devils. What about yew-wood tables? Are there fakes of those too?"

"They're being turned out today. And as yew-wood takes on a well-polished, patinated appearance quite quickly, they can be dangerous."

"Come to think of it, you're well-polished and patinated yourself. How do I know you're the genuine article?"

"You don't. Worrying thought, isn't it?"

Peter Philip

FILMS

A screen test for Britain's best

The history of the British cinema may, as a new book claims, be one of unparalleled mediocrity but every 20 years or so comes a burst of creative energy sufficient to justify talk of a renaissance. It happened during the 1940s, again in the 1960s and it is happening now.

James Park's *Learning to Dream* (Faber Paperbacks, £3.25) is a perceptive analysis of recent British films and their makers and under the same title he has arranged a season at the Institute of Contemporary Arts designed to put this latest renaissance into perspective.

Starting on Wednesday, it comprises a series of double bills in which the offerings of the "new" British cinema are set against the work of film makers from earlier periods. Neil Jordan's *Angels*, for instance, is linked with Carol Reed's *Odd Man Out*: two studies of people caught up in Irish terrorism.

Alexander Mackendrick's *Ealing Comedy*, *The Muggie*, makes a thematic connection with another treatment of American intrusion on the canny Scots. Bill Forsyth's *Local Hero*. The 1940s social realism of *It Always Rains on Sunday* can be contrasted with the 1970s realism of *Quadrophenia*.

In the more formal areas of colour and decor, Michael Powell's *The Red Shoes* has as its companion piece Derek Jarman's painterly rendering of *The Tempest*. *Witchfinder General* and *The Draughtsman's Contract* find their common ground as costume drama set in English rural landscapes.

The underlying questions raised by Park's book, and the ICA season, is what young film makers like Neil Jordan, Peter Greenaway, Michael Radford, Bill Forsyth and Richard Eyre have in common; and what kind of cinema they aspire to. James Park's thesis, which the season may or may not sustain, is that the new British directors are mostly united in



Hard times for Google Withers in *It Always Rains on Sunday* and a lone mod in *Quadrophenia*... high jinks from Laurel and Hardy and Marxist mayhem with *GroUCHO, Chico and Harpo*

their rejection of the realist ambitions of Free Cinema (which spurred the 1960s renaissance) and look instead to the earlier tradition of exploring inner states of mind and the darker side of life.

This was at the heart of the renaissance of the 1940s, exemplified by Reed's treatment of corruption and betrayal in *The Third Man*, Robert Hamer's black comedy, *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, and the work of Michael Powell. Though they belong to a later era, Park also includes the Hammer horrors.

Such attempts to throw off the shackles of realism are, Park argues, particularly crucial at the present time since they can, and should, distinguish the cinema from television. While television is the ideal medium in which to narrate the documentary facts about life, the penetrating work of art must chart the realm of dreams and the unconscious.

The cinema is equipped to do this as the small screen is not. Park quotes the director Bill Douglas: "The trouble with British film makers in the past is that they have lacked the necessary imagination. It seems that some of the new film makers have finally learnt to dream."

Peter Waymark

Learning to Dream opens at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1, on Wed and runs until Dec 30. Box office: 01-930 3647.

Openings

SUCCESS IS THE BEST REVENGE (15): Jerzy Skolimowski's study of Polish exiles in London, infused with his caustic humour and starring Michael York, John Hurt and Anouk Aimée. From today at Everyman, Hampstead (433 1525).

STOP MAKING SENSE (PG): Jonathan Demme's sympathetic portrait of a rock band, based on footage from three Hollywood concerts by the Talking Heads. From Mon at Classic Oxford Street (836 0310) and Screen on the Green (226 3520).

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROAD STREET (PG): Paul McCartney's first feature film since *Let It Be* 14 years ago and charting "the day in the mind" of an international pop

star; the score includes Beatles' classics, plus three new McCartney songs. From Fri at Odeon Marble Arch (723 2011) and Empire Leicester Square (437 1234).

THE BROTHER FROM ANOTHER PLANET (15): Joyous send-up by maverick director John Sayles of all those science fiction movies about strangers from outer space trying to understand earthy civilization. From Fri at Electric Screen (229 3694); Classic Chelsea (352 5096); and Classic Oxford Street (836 0310).

METROPOLIS (PG): Fritz Lang's silent classic, made in 1926, revived with a modern rock score by Giorgio Moroder. From Fri at Screen on the Hill (435 3366).

Raoul turns his hand to the scandal press in another irreverent look at contemporary America. Nancy Allen as the ambitious reporter leading a double life.

MARIA'S LOVERS (18): Classic Haymarket (839 1527) First American film directed by Russian émigré Andrei Konchalovsky and intriguingly combining the two cultures. John Savage as a soldier returning from the Second World War and Nastassja Kinski as the woman of his dreams.

FULL MOON IN PARIS (15): Chelsea Cinema (351 3742) Camden Plaza (485 2443) Eric Rohmer's spare, elegant study of a girl trying to keep her men and her independence with an

enchanting performance from 24-year-old Pascale Ogier, who died suddenly last month.

Selected

THE KILLING FIELDS (15) Warner West End (438 0791) Sam Waterston as New York Times man covering the Cambodian war and Hanoi's Ngor (in his first acting role) as the friend he has to leave behind in David Putnam's \$10 million blockbuster directed by newcomer Roland Joffé.

ANNIE'S COMING OUT (PG) Classic Haymarket (833 1527) Acclaimed Australian film about how a physically handicapped child is saved from life's scrap heap; Angela Punch McGregor superb as the teacher.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION (15) ABC Fulham Road (870 2636) Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148) Black humourist Paul Bartel (*Eating*

the Scrambled Eggs

THE WEEK

Foretaste of classic Marxism

Films on TV

When Groucho Marx gazes adoringly at the statuesque Margaret Dumont, the put-down cannot be far away. "Your eyes, your eyes", he coos, "they shine like the pants of a blue serge suit".

It is moments like these that make any Marx Brothers film worth catching, even *The Cocoanuts* (from which this gem is taken). One says "even" for this was the brothers' first excursion into the cinema and allowances have to be made.

The Marxes started as a vaudeville act and *The Cocoanuts* was taken from one of their early stage hits. As a film it never escapes from the confines of its theatrical origins and it comes over more as a series of revue sketches than a connected whole. But this was more or less true of the entire Marx canon.

It is not just in *The Cocoanuts* that Harpo does his harp solo completely out of context with the rest of the picture. It was not the only film weighed down with warbling

romantic leads and tiresome sub-plots. Happily none of this is important. What matters is that the elements of classic Marxism are there, waiting only to be polished and sharpened. Groucho firing off his volleys of patter, Chico wheeling and dealing, Harpo innocently leaving mayhem in his wake. If a Marx Brothers film is basically a series of turns, they are some turns.

The Cocoanuts was made in 1929 when Hollywood was still adjusting to the talkie revolution and the sound quality is one of the allowances to be made. It is worth putting up with this, and other irritations, to savour such delights as the "why a duck?" routine which has rightly passed into Marxist lore.

The Cocoanuts is showing on Channel 4 this afternoon (2-3.45pm) in a double bill with the 1943 Laurel and Hardy film, *Jitterbugs* (3.45-5.05pm).

Also recommended

Dark Star (1974): The low budget directorial debut of John Carpenter, which follows the hazards of a spaceship crew on an intergalactic mission (BBC2, tomorrow, 10.30-11.50pm).

Heaven Can Wait (1943): Ernst Lubitsch fantasy with Don Ameche

as a playboy confessing all to the devil to discover whether he is meant for heaven or hell (Channel 4, tomorrow, 10.15pm-12.15am).

Citizens' Band (1977): Paulie Mat and Candy Clark in small town comedy with CB radio as the dramatic peg, directed by Jonathan Demme, whose latest film *Stop Making Sense* opens in London

next week (BBC2, Tues, 9.30-11pm).

The Bachelor Party (1957): Don Murray, E. G. Marshall and Jack Warden in Paddy Chayefsky-scripted story of a stag party which exposes their empty lives (BBC2, Fri, 11.10pm-12.45am).

*First British television showing.

P.W.

TELEVISION

Programme choice

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF KING JOHN: A chance to assess the late Leonard Rossiter as a straight actor as he takes on one of the lesser known Shakespeare roles, a monarch with few redeeming features. The supporting cast includes Claire Bloom, John Thaw and Mary Morris. BBC2, today, 8.30-11.10pm.

ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE: Trying to make the Queen Mother laugh, without the benefit of jokes about Arthur Scargill, are the likes of Ronnie Corbett, Rowan Atkinson, Roy Hudd and Barry Humphries; plus extracts from current West End musicals. BBC1, tomorrow, 7.15-10.15pm.

SOUTH SEA VOYAGE: Four-part adventure documentary set in the South Pacific and following Koro Menuhin (son of Yehudi), his wife and their baby son as they explore remote and rarely-visited islands. In the first film, *Cults, Customs and Missions*, they sail to Vanuatu, the 480-mile long archipelago of 80 islands. Channel 4, tomorrow, 8.15-9.15pm.

THE CLAIRVOYANT: A comedy playlet from Roy (Last of the Summer Wine) Clarke about a man who suddenly finds he has been endowed with clairvoyant powers. Roy Kinnear plays the central character, a motor-cycle victim recovering in hospital, and Sandra Dickinson is his girlfriend. BBC2, Tues, 9-9.50pm.

GOOD COMPANIONS: A look at the British obsession with pets. Every other home has one, whether it be the cat, dog or budgie or less, common rat or snake. The programme asks why is it their therapeutic effect or do they provide reassurance in a rapidly changing and often lonely world? Among pet owners trying to supply the answer is the writer *Jilly Cooper*. All ITV regions, Tues, 10.30-11.30pm.

STARWASHED: The television debut of *The People Show*, a comedy group which has been called the Marx Brothers of British alternative theatre. The quartet of Mark Long, Channing Yarroway, George Kinn and Errol Wolk play a troupe of vaudevillians who get an audition with a famous American producer. Channel 4, Wed, 9-10.05pm.

ON THE THRONE: Lady Lucinda Lambton, author of *Temple of Convenience* offers a guided tour of some of Britain's loveliest lavatories. She visits a splendid gentleman's cloakroom in Manchester and a mock marble urinal in Liverpool pub and reveals that each year we use enough lavatory paper to go to the moon and back 63 times. BBC2, Thurs, 9.30-10.10pm.

OTHER EVENTS

Sport

WALLABY TEST: Having disposed of England and Ireland, the Australian Rugby Union tourists may have a stiffer task when they take on Wales at Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon. The game kicks off at 2.30pm; there is live coverage on BBC1 and highlights in *Rugby Special*, BBC2, 7.40-8.30pm.

RAC RALLY: The top event in the British rally calendar is flagged away from Chester tomorrow morning. The Finn, Hannu Mikkola, the only man to have won the rally four times, will again be a strong contender in the Audi Quattro. The surviving cars are due back at Chester for the finish on Thurs afternoon. BBC2 is providing nightly coverage, with a preview today at 11.10pm and the first progress report tomorrow, 11.50pm-12.05am.

BIG FIGHT: In what could be one of the highlights of the boxing year, Tony Sison and Mark Kaylor meet at Wembley on Tues for the middleweight championship of Great Britain, Europe and the Commonwealth. On the same bill, Frank Bruno continues his comeback against the American, Phil Brown. Live commentary in *Boxing Special*, Radio 2, 9.20pm; television highlights in *Sportsnight*, BBC1, Wed, 10.20pm-12.10am.

BOMBAY DUCKS: The First Test of England's ill-fated cricket tour of India gets under way in Bombay on Wed. Radio 3 medium wave is providing live commentary from lunch to close of play each day, 7.05-11.15am. The match is over five days, with a rest day on Fri.

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL: The UEFA Cup reaches its third round first leg on Wed when British interest will be centred on the matches between Manchester United and Dundee and Tottenham Hotspur, the holders, against Bohemians Prague. Highlights of one of the games in *Midweek Sports Special*, ITV, from 10.35pm.

Radio

THE BIRDCAVE: The Monday Play, by Ross Maclean, is about a celebrated cellist with only three months to live who finds his values altered by the young girl who comes to nurse him. Alan Dobie plays the cellist, with Barbara Leigh-Hunt as his wife and Maggie Smith as the nurse. Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.30pm.

MR FACEY ROMFORD'S HOUNDS: For the third successive year the *Book at Bedtime* leading up to Christmas is a novel by R. S. Surtees. Facey Romford is a confidence trickster, with the impressive gift of being able to talk his way out of dangerous situations, who advertises as a master of hounds. The reader is John Franklin-Robbins. Radio 4, Mon-Fri, 10.15-10.30pm.

WINNING STRINGS: The Lindsay String Quartet recently won the Gramophone award for the best chamber music recording of the year with the Beethoven Quartets. In this profile of the group, Natalie Whelan examines their background, professional as well as domestic. Radio 4, Tues, 4.20-4.40pm.

MACBETH: A welcome chance to hear again the acclaimed production of Shakespeare's tragedy, presented as part of Radio 3's Scottish season. Hannah Gordon and Denis Quillley play the Macbeths, Clifford Ross is Duncan and John Rowe is Macduff. Radio 3, Wed, 7-9.10pm.

THE UNSUNG CARROLL: Apart from "The Hunting of the Snark", Lewis Carroll's poetry is comparatively little known, but he was a prolific poet who wrote verse throughout his life. The earliest date from the 1840s when he was growing up in Yorkshire; he continued to write as a Rugby schoolboy, an undergraduate and a don at Oxford; and his last poems were penned shortly before his death in 1898. The programme is presented by Morton Cohen. Radio 3, Fri, 7.55-8.15pm.

Auctions

DANISH GOLD: All those inspired by the National Gallery's exhibition, "Danish Painting: The Golden Age", should be off to Sotheby's on Wed when a collection of 19th-century Danish paintings and drawings comes up for sale. Sotheby's, 54-55 New Bond Street, London W1 (493 8080). Viewing Mon and Tues 9am-4.30pm. Sale Wed 10.30am.

HITLER AS ARTIST: A sale of German memorabilia from the 1930s and '40s, includes many items belonging to Hitler and which were seized by French troops who captured his Bavarian lair at Berchtesgaden in 1945. They include his personal seal and several watercolours. Phillips, Blenheim Street, London W1 (629 6802). Viewing Mon and Tues 10am-5pm, Wed 9-11am. Sale Wed 12 noon.

ENTERTAINERS GALORE: The stage props used by comedian Tommy Cooper launch Christie's two-day sale of entertainment memorabilia on Thurs. Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (681-2231). Viewing Wed and Thurs 9am to 4.30pm. Sale Thurs 6pm and Fri 10.30am.

Outings

ALEXANDRA PALACE CRAFT FAIR: Three hundred of Britain's leading craftsmen and craftsmen are displaying (and selling) their wares, from clothes, furniture, clocks, fine bone china and cooking ware to embroidered silk. Prices 50p to £250. Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, London N22. Tomorrow, 10am-6pm. Adults £1, children and pensioners 50p. Information: 589-4791.

BRING ON THE CLOWNS: Exhibition of original designs, posters and graphics devoted to circus, pantomime, ballet, opera and film. The items include 10 lithographs of circus life by the French designer, Paul Colin. Camden Art Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3. Tomorrow, 2-6pm, with entertainment by Bo the clown. Until Dec 22. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm. Sun 2-5pm. Information: 753 5772.

TIME FOR TENNYSON: An evening of readings on the life and poetry of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, by Maria Aitken and Gary Bond. Odette Gilbert Gallery, 5 Cork Street, London W1. Wed, 8pm. Tickets, £4 in advance including wine, from Marianne Forte (434 2055/434 4171).

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Covent Garden, London WC1 (240 1066)

After a week of ballet, opera returns to Covent Garden on Mon at 7pm with *Don Giovanni*, most notable for its conductor, the Swedish early music specialist form Drömmingholm, Arnold Östman. Thomas Allen takes the title role in this and the remaining two performances on Thurs and Dec 3 at 7pm.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (836 3161) A nicely balanced week: tonight, Wed and Dec 1 at 7pm, *Così fan tutte* comes back to the Coliseum, with Felicity Lott as Fiordiligi and Jean Pigby as the new Donabella. Russia, in David Pountney's stimulating and beautiful

THEATRE



Brutally frank: Kevin McNally and Helen Mirren in *Extremities*

Killing the myths about rape

Extremities by William Mastrosimone, which opens at the Duchess Theatre on Monday, provoked such a strong response from audiences during its production in the United States that on occasions they shouted at the actors and sometimes went on stage to remonstrate with them.

That is unlikely to happen here, not least because the stage and stalls are well separated, but the play deals with such an emotive subject that it is bound to be controversial. *Extremities* is set in New Jersey, and concerns an intruder who attempts to rape a young woman in her house. She manages to fight him off, ties him up, and considers her revenge. It is the second play written by Mastrosimone, aged 37, who was born in Trenton, New Jersey, where he now lives, and is based on an incident in which he was involved.

In 1978 when he was a clerk in a liquor store in Trenton, a middle-aged woman came into the store covered in cuts and bruises, and trembling. The

following day she returned and told Mastrosimone "I was raped last night", and told him all about it.

"The rapist was caught and charged, but the case was thrown out of court because of lack of evidence, and she was humiliated. After the case, the rapist threatened her and she was so frightened that she sold out and went to live on the west coast. I never saw her again, but during that time we became companions and she told me that there was one moment during the attack when she could have hit back, but she did not for fear."

"Later she wished she had done so, even if she was killed. The whole episode affected me so deeply that I went home and wrote the play in 24 hours", he recalls.

Mastrosimone went to rape trials and talked to rape victims and the play has been altered since its first draft. When it was first produced at a community college, the town council tried to ban it, which ensured full houses thereafter, and the play

was subsequently performed at Louisville and Baltimore, and at the Westgate Arts Center in New York where it ran for 11 months.

Despite the brutal theme, Mastrosimone insists that the play is entertainment. "The first obligation a playwright has is to keep people's attention, to provide a drama. If you have something to say, you have to slip it in where you can. I wanted to kill two myths, that the woman is partly to blame, and that rape is for sex. That is not true. Rape is for brutalization and humiliation."

Helen Mirren plays the woman and Kevin McNally the rapist, and the play is directed by Robert Allan Ackerman, who directed *Bent* on Broadway and has been a resident director at the New York Shakespeare Festival.

Christopher Warman

Extremities previews tonight at 8pm at the Duchess Theatre (836 8243). Opens Mon at 7pm, then Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30 and 8.30pm, matinee Wed at 3pm.

In preview

CORIOLANUS: Sir Peter Hall directs Ian McKellen in the title role, with Irene Worth as Voltemia, and a company including Geoffrey Burridge, Basil Henson, Greg Hicks, Wendy Morgan, Judith Paris, Barrie Rutter, David Ryall, John Savident and Frederick Treves. There are 90 seats on stage, as "part of the action". Oliver (828 2282). Previews Fri at 7.15pm, Dec 1, 3-5 at 7.15pm; opens Dec 6 at 7pm, in repertory.

THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE AGED 13½: The West End premiere of Sue Townsend's best-selling book. It has been partly recast, but *Adrian* is still played by 16-year-old Simon Schatzberger. Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (836 3028). Previews from Wed at 8pm: Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5 and 8.15pm; matinees Wed at 3pm; Opens Dec 21 at 7pm (no matinee Dec 12).

Openings

THE DESERT AIR: New play by Nicholas Wright, author of *The Custom of the Country*. It is described as "a comedy about war and anger" and is set in Cairo in 1942. The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 285623). Opens Tues at 7.30pm, also on Wed and Fri at 7.30pm, Dec 1 and 4 at 7.30pm; Dec 5 and 4 at 7.30pm; Press night Dec 5 at 7pm, in repertory.

HARD TIMES: Stephen Jeffers has adapted the Charles Dickens mill town saga for the stage, and four performers portray all the characters. Orange Tree Theatre, opposite Richmond Station, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey (940 3633). Previews Thurs at 7.30pm, opens Fri at 7.30pm, until Dec 15 (and then Dec 27-Jan 18) Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Sat (not Dec 1) at 2.30pm; Dec 5, 12, Jan 2, 9, 16 at 2.30pm.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK AND THE WILD WILLOW: David Holman's version of the pantomime classic is not entirely "orthodox", but takes over the Young Vic for Christmas in the traditional fashion, being the theatre's first ever pantomime. Young Vic, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (828 6363). Opens Fri at 2pm; until Jan 18, times vary, but until Dec 22: Mon-Sat at 2pm (not Dec 21); Dec 4, 7, 8, 14, 15, 18-22 at 7pm; Dec 5, 6, 11-13, 17 at 10am.

THE POPE'S WEDDING: Presented in tandem with *Saved*, with which it shares the themes of obsessive

Selected

BREAKING THE SILENCE *The Pit* (828 8795). Today at 2 and 7.30pm. Mon, Tues and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Inspired by his own ancestors' history, Stephen Polakoff's subtle, complex new play watches an aristocratic Russian family adapt to post-1917 upheaval.

GLENHARRY GLEN ROSS Cottesloe, National Theatre (328 2252). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory. David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat world of American real-estate men.

HENRY VIII Barbican (828 8795/638 8891). Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 2 and 7.30pm. In repertory. The RSC's insouciant Brechtian production has real flair and gives an interesting new shape to this usually unadorned play.

TWO PLANKS AND A PASSION Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, London SE10 (858 7755). Until Dec 15, Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Sat at 2.30pm. A subtle, original play on an epic summer holiday combines the beauty of the York Mystery Plays, the grandeur of Richard II's official visit, tragedy in his private life, broad comedy as snobish locals vie to honour him - and a great deal more.

Out of Town

BRISTOL: Old Vic, Theatre Royal, King Street (0272 24388). Good by C. P. Taylor. Until Dec 12, Mon-Wed at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs (not Dec 6) at 3pm, Sat at 4pm. Presented by the RSC in 1981 and 1982 and acclaimed as one of the best new plays in the past 10 years, this piece charts the moral collapse of a lecturer in 1930s Berlin.

EXETER: Northcott, Stocker Road (0325 55111). *The Pit* by Peter Upward, which tells the story of an Imperial Russian Princess. Nov 21, Dec 1, at 2.30pm. Premiere production of a musical play written and composed by Peter Upward which tells the story of an Imperial Russian Princess.

LEEDS: Playhouse, Calverley Street (0532 44211). *A Patriot for Me* by John Osborne. Until Dec 15, Mon and Tues at 8pm, Wed-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Dec 15 at 3pm. The first regional repertory production of Osborne's 1965 play, which was banned at the time.

LIVERPOOL: Playhouse, Williamson Square (051 709 8363). *Hindle Wakes* by Stanley Houghton. Opens Thurs at 7.30pm. Until Jan 19, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm; matinee Sat at 4pm.

A 1911 comedy in which a romantic fling leads to pressure "to do the decent thing". The Playhouse describe Houghton as "the Willy Russell of his age".

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0783 256223). *Love's Labour's Lost*. Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Final new production of the season: Barry Kyle directs Edward Petherbridge, Josette Simon, Roger Rees, Kenneth Branagh. Hamlar, Tolley and Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory. Roger Rees, Brian Blessed, Virginia Marshall, Frances Barber, directed by Ron Daniels.

The Week compiled by Peter Waymark. Theatre: Anthony Masters; Opera: Hilary Finch

Artal Adolf: Watercolour of a Bavarian village by Hitler, on sale at Christie's on Wednesday (see Auctions)

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Prudential spearheads defence of pensions

The pensions lobby, first mobilized to defend against help for early leavers and welded into a fighting force over portable pensions, has now achieved formidable momentum. Tomorrow, the Prudential will launch a £400,000 two-week advertising blitz to alert the public to what it sees as the perils of the Government's "radical" plans for pension portability.

The Prudential campaign will be backed up by a booklet on the company's views, which also takes a swipe at the Chancellor's rumoured plan to attack the £5 billion of pension tax concessions in his next Budget. Legal & General started this ball rolling with some horrendous calculations of the possible effect on employers' pension costs of removing some of the bigger tax exemptions.

Trade unions have proved inexplicably opposed to occupational pensions reform all along. Now employers have been galvanized into action. Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI's director-general, initiated what promises to be a spirited campaign in Birmingham yesterday, warning Mr Lawson to leave pensions alone.

"Make no mistake" Sir Terence told his apprehensive audience, "someone would have to pay for those bright new ideas in Whitehall and it would be you." His main target is the rumoured threat to pension tax relief.

"It would pile new and unnecessary costs on us, just when the whole thrust of our national policy should be to remove these imposts, to make business and industry more competitive." Even big companies could not afford the extra cost and smaller ones could not even contemplate it. The CBI will be voting on opposition at its Council meeting on Wednesday and it is not hard to guess the result.

It is clear, however, that Sir Terence has bought the whole corporatist dislike of pension reform, fanned by the pensions lobby. He condemns uprating of "so-called" frozen pensions as unfair to those loyal to their company, as if we lived in an age when employers ascribed redundancies in favour of lifetime employment.

The poor pension fund member, seems all too likely to be ground between these two corporate wheels again. The danger is that the Chancellor will take the soft option of taxing lump-sums on retirement, which represent the individual's only chance to turn pensions into wealth, simply because this would do no significant harm either to employers' costs or to the occupational pensions industry.

Lucrative icing for the marzipan set

Elaborate golden chains have been devised to tie partners in stockbroking firms to their desks after "big bang" day. Buying stockbrokers means buying goodwill; those banks and others shelling out large sums for broking firms do not want to find the goodwill departing for a comfortable life as soon as the deal is struck.

Dividing chains to hold onto the young, up-and-coming talent is a tougher task but probably equally crucial. The marzipan set, as they are known in the City's latest "in" phrase, have missed out on the icing because they are just below partnership level and therefore are not being paid a large sum for their share in the business. However, they are crucial to the firm's future and are just the sort of people likely to accept the lure of large salaries by the big US investment houses.

James Capel, to tackle just this problem, will soon tell more than 100 of its bright young staff how they can expect to benefit from the deal being struck with

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Part of the sale proceeds are being put in a trust to provide additional income spread over five years for promising employees.

The payments will be based on a points system designed to reward both past and future contributions to the business. It is an incentive to stay and recognition that, whoever legally owns the business, the goodwill of the firm is the creation of both employees as well as partners. James Capel made such a scheme a prerequisite of any merger proposals. Quite how much the marzipan set can hope to gain is unknown, but figures of £200,000 or more have been bandied about.

Variations on the Capel plan are doubtless being discussed in many broking firms. Partners in Wood, Mackenzie are believed to have set aside something for the benefit of all staff from the £20 million Hill Samuel is paying. Phillips & Drew plans incentives for staff who are not partners. Rowe & Pitman has formed a sub-committee to study the problem.

One of the problems is finding a tax-efficient method. Partners incur capital gains tax when they are bought out but payments to staff spread over a period are likely to be taxable as income at marginal rates.

Grievances, Grant's plan to give enhanced pension entitlements to staff who stay on has the benefit of tax efficiency, but there have been rumblings of discontent among some employees. A big pension is not the sort of incentive all young stockbrokers look for.

De Zoete & Bevan is another broking firm which plans to filter some of the sale proceeds down below partnership level. Even when merged with Wedd Durlacher and bought by Barclays, there will still be 25 per cent of the new securities company which Barclays will not own, allowing the possibility of stock options for those who, in former years, would have had a partnership stake.

New image for friendly societies

The Friendly Societies Bill, which has now passed its third reading in the Commons, appears to give these small savings institutions a new lease of life. It abolishes the upper limit on the sum assured of £60,000, which had until now been set on the taxable life assurance business of friendly societies. The legislation compensates to some extent for the reduction of the societies' tax-free business to almost uneconomic levels in the last Budget.

By abolishing the limit on taxable business, the Government has now given the societies the freedom to act exactly like ordinary mutual life assurance companies. The 350 registered societies cannot hope to match the huge resources of the life offices - particularly in advertising and marketing - if they now begin to compete directly.

They will also have difficulty expanding their volume of with-profit life assurance business at all rapidly. The Department of Trade imposes prudential limits on any company writing such business, relating the size of the company to the liabilities it takes on.

Most societies, however, are well aware of these problems. The number of societies is likely to shrink even faster as they hasten to amalgamate into larger, more competitive units. They are also likely to rely heavily on unit-linked business which is not subject to the same controls as with-profits business. In anticipation of the legislation, the sizable Tunbridge Wells Equitable society, for example, recently merged with a small unit linked company, Kinsman Assurance.

Glanfield shares suspended

Trading in the shares of Glanfield Lawrence, the motor distributor, was suspended yesterday when the company said that it would miss a profits forecast for 1984.

WEDGWOOD, manufacturers of bone china and earthenware, made interim

pretax profits to the end of September of £5.95m, against £2.86m. The dividend was raised to 2.75p from 2.25p.

CHLORIDE made pretax profits in the six months to end of September of £3.4 million, against £3.1 million. No

dividend was paid on the ordinary shares. Tempus, page 24

CONSUMER PRICES in the EEC rose by 0.8 per cent last month, giving an annual inflation rate in the Community of 6.7 per cent.

Investors back Tanzania's gold

From Michael Prest, Dar es Salaam

Tanzania, whose stricken economy desperately needs external finance, could soon be host to a wide range of foreign funded mining and mineral ventures if an agreement is successful between the government and a group of Muslim investors to develop gold mines in the country.

The agreement, which was signed in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, may also herald a series of projects bringing together Muslim, mainly Arab, money and African natural resources and organized according to the precepts of Islamic finance.

The moving force behind the gold mine scheme is the Egyptian financier Dr Ibrahim Kamel, who four years ago set up in Geneva the Dar al Islami (Islamic Financial Institution), one of the first of the rapidly-expanding network of banks catering for Muslims.

Dr Kamel's new company is called Dar Madine al-Umma (the Company of Mines). It has been formed to take advantage of the extensive mineralogical survey of Tanzania, which has been completed at a cost of

more than \$30 million (£24 million) by Geosurvey, a Nairobi company. Under the agreement with Tanzania, will invest initially \$25 million to process tailings left by three mines which have been derelict since the 1970s.

Geosurvey estimates that the tailings contain up to 500,000 tonnes of gold bearing material at a grade of about four grammes a tonne. This reserve is valued at \$20 million.

Dr Kamel said that the mining company would lend \$10 million to the Tanzanian government to pay Geosurvey for the work.

The loan would be repaid from the one third of gold production which the Government will receive under the agreement. Dr Kamel has an option to buy 51 per cent of Geosurvey. Dar Madine will be free of taxes for 25 years.

The initial \$25 million was raised, according to Dr Kamel, in six hours from prominent investors in Kuwait, the al-Wazzan family, which is related to the Emir's ruling family - and the al-Saeed family of Saudi Arabia.

The Islamic principle is that no interest is taken or given. Instead, the investors are organized in a "Moderaba", an Islamic company which shares the profit or loss. The Moderaba will receive half of the gold produced and Dar Madine one-sixth.

Investors are repaid in gold Islamic dinar coins, bullion or cash from the sale of the amount of gold to which their investment entitles them.

Their stake in the Moderaba is represented by certificates which are registered negotiable instruments.

The Dar Madine is incorporated in the Bahamas, although disputes are to be settled finally under Islamic law in the United Arab Emirates shahdikhdom of Sharjah.

Dr Kamel expects to invest at least \$75 million in four gold mines in Tanzania. He hopes that the money can be raised from around the world and that repayment in gold will convert the Islamic world back to the gold standard. But all the voting rights over the mining company are vested in the management, of which Dr Kamel is president.

Both sides claim victory in Currys-Dixons bid battle

By Christopher Dunn

The outcome of the Currys/Dixons £240 million bid battle hung in the balance last night, with both camps claiming victory, after the final offer acceptances closed at 3pm.

Acceptances received for the offer, which values Currys at more than 500p a share, totalled 42.3 per cent of Currys' ordinary shares and 62 per cent of the preference shares, leaving the Dixons camp about 8 per cent short of outright victory and control.

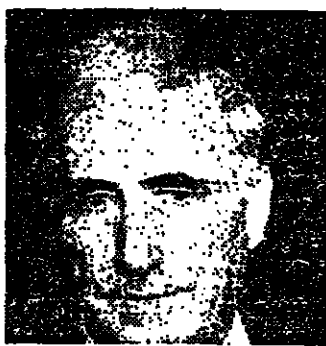
Mr Roger Seelig of Morgan Grenfell, Dixons' merchant bank, said: "We are very pleased and confident about the final result."

The offer has been extended for final acceptances to 3pm on November 30, with the cash offer closing on Friday December 12.

Mr Seelig added: "There has been very widespread institutional support, and we are aware of other institutions that are supportive, but which because of their normal policy wait until the final closing date. I am sure that we will now proceed to close the offer successfully."

However, the Currys' camp last night was equally confident that the Dixons bid would now be defeated. A spokesman for S G Warburg, Currys' merchant bank, said: "Dixons have taken out the loose holders, and but I think they are going to have a very hard struggle to take it any further."

"On Wednesday, people can start withdrawing their acceptances and I think then that we'll see the tide flowing back our



Stanley Kalms of Dixons

way. More and more, as people look at the package that we are proposing they will realize that Dixons are trying to buy Currys on the cheap."

The revised Currys defence to the Dixons' offer involves the formation of a new holding company and the distribution

to shareholders of 150p in cash, after sale and leaseback of part of the Currys' property portfolio, now valued at £134 million.

Currys' confidence was based on the fact that the Dixons offer appeared to have attracted only 26 per cent of acceptances from long-term shareholders. Of the 42.3 per cent, some 4.9 per cent were acceptances, subject to registration, indicating very recent purchases. The residual 10.9 per cent appears to comprise Dixons' stake in Currys, according to Currys.

Yet the level of institutional acceptances has been high. It is understood that most of the blue chip institutions, including the Prudential, Legal and General, the Electricity Council and the National Coal Board Pension Fund, have assented to the offer. This implies that the Currys' family may have stood together in resisting the bid.

Pressure on sterling as North Sea prices fall

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Spot market prices for North Sea oil fell sharply again yesterday, putting pressure on the pound. The price of Forties crude dropped 30 cents to \$27.10 a barrel. Brent crude for December delivery was down 35 cents to \$27.25, and Brent for January delivery dropped 20 cents to \$27.10.

The official North Sea price, based on Brent crude oil, is \$28.65 a barrel. Sterling fell nearly a cent against the dollar yesterday to \$1.2185. The sterling index fell 0.2 to 74.9. During the week, North Sea spot prices have dropped nearly 75 cents a barrel, while the pound has fallen by 4.1 cents against the dollar and the sterling index has declined by 1.5.

Mr David Morrison, currency economist at Simon & Coates, attributes the pound's weakness to two factors: "There are two visible negatives; oil prices are soft in the spot markets and Britain is chasing US interest rates down faster than anyone else."

Sterling is vulnerable at present levels, he says, and could easily test its previous all-time low of \$1.18.

The weakness of oil prices in the European spot markets is due to mild weather, a perceived drop in oil demand because of slower world growth and over-production by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

New bid for Cullens Stores splits family

By Jeremy Warner

A third contender yesterday entered the fast-moving battle for control of Cullens Stores, splitting the loyalties of the family-run grocery and off-licence company.

A new company controlled by Mr Leslie Cartier, the former supermarket entrepreneur who sold his Cartier Superstores to Tesco in 1978, made a £7.4 million cash and shares bid for the group.

No sooner had Mr Cartier made his move than St Paul's Stores, a company put together with City backing by Mr John Fletcher, the managing director of the stores group Asda until his contract was abruptly terminated last May, made a firm offer worth a similar amount.

Mr Cartier has backing for his bid from the 24.5 per cent share stake in the company owned by Mr David Cullens. He resigned as a director of the group after a row last June.

Beazer issues bid terms

By Alison Eadie

C. H. Beazer, the Bath housebuilding and property group, yesterday issued its £49 million offer document for the minerals to instrumentation group Bath and Portland.

The chairman, Mr Brian Beazer, said he was confident he could improve Bath and Portland's performance.

B&P's chairman, Mr David Macdonald, countered: "The share price proves this is not a real bid and we're waiting to see if a real bid comes". B&P shares closed unchanged at 283p, 42p above the share and cash offer from Beazer and 57p above the all cash offer.

The offer document stresses Beazer is offering a premium of 93 per cent to B&P's net asset value. It also compares Beazer's near-tenfold increase in taxable profits from 1978 to 1983 against a 60 per cent fall for B&P over the same period.

B&P is expected to mount its defence by pointing to its improved prospects since new management took over two years ago.

Grovebell directors step down

By Philip Robinson

Grovebell Group yesterday confirmed that Mr William "John" Bishop has resigned from the board after less than a month.

Mr Michael Barker-Harber, his associate, has also resigned and the two are selling their 11 per cent stake in the company. Neither was available for comment last night.

Mr Vasant Advani, Grovebell chairman, said: "After arrangements have been made and people find they are not suitable to each other then they happily part company. There will be no golden handshakes; it was a mutual agreement."

Mr Bishop was sharply criticized in a 1978 Department of Trade and Industry report for his share dealings during the takeover of Grendon Trust, where he was a director. The report described Mr Bishop as "irresponsible" and "devious" when he was a witness during the investigation.

Last month, Mr Bishop said: "I accepted the appointment because I am interested in the growth area of financial services. I do not think my past record will deter people from dealing with Grovebell."

Mr Bishop's resignation is contained in Grovebell's formal offer document sent out yesterday and detailing the £5.6 million takeover bid for Atlanta Investment Trust.

Grovebell says it is extending its current financial year to cover 13 months to the end of December when pretax profits will be at least £350,000 against £799,780 last time.

Bonus plan defended

Wedd Durlacher, the City's leading jobbing concern, which plans to link up with de Zoete & Bevan and Barclays Bank, has acted swiftly to defuse tension within the firm following the decision not to pay a Christmas bonus.

Yesterday it is understood that a number of the firm's leading dealers were promised partnerships, perhaps as many as 11, while promises of good bonuses in future have been given to almost all the staff.

Mr Graham Ferguson, personnel partner at Wedd, said: "We didn't pay bonus because our trading profits did not warrant it."

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1158.8 up 0.6
FT Index: 910.3 up 0.4
FT Glits: 82.94 up 0.03
FT All Share: 549.82 down 0.42
Bergsma: 21.880
Datsam USM Leaders Index: 104.63 down 0.39
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest): 1214.89 up 13.37
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: closed
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1096.04 up 8.23
Amsterdam: 175.8 up 1.4
Sydney: AO Index: 770.1 down 2.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1085.6 up 3.3
Brussels: General Index: 157.19 up 0.63
Paris: CAC Index: 180.9 up 0.9
Zurich: SBA General: 313.4 up 0.6

CURRENCIES

STERLING CLOSE
Sterling Index 74.9, down 0.2 (range 74.8-75.0)
\$1.2185 down 80 points
DM 3.6975 up 0.0050
FF 11.3200 up 0.0180
Yen 298.90 down 0.97
Dollar Index 140.8 up 0.6
DM 3.0340 up 0.0250
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2190
Dollar DM 3.0320
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.50323
SDR £0.51142

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9%-9½%
Finance houses base rate 11%
Discount market loans week fixed 9½-9¾%
3 month interbank 9¾-9½%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9¾%
3 month DM 5½-5¾%
3 month Frf 11½-11¾%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.75
Fed funds 9
Treasury long bond 103½-103¾%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 3 to November 6, 1984 inclusive: 10.816 per cent.

GOLD

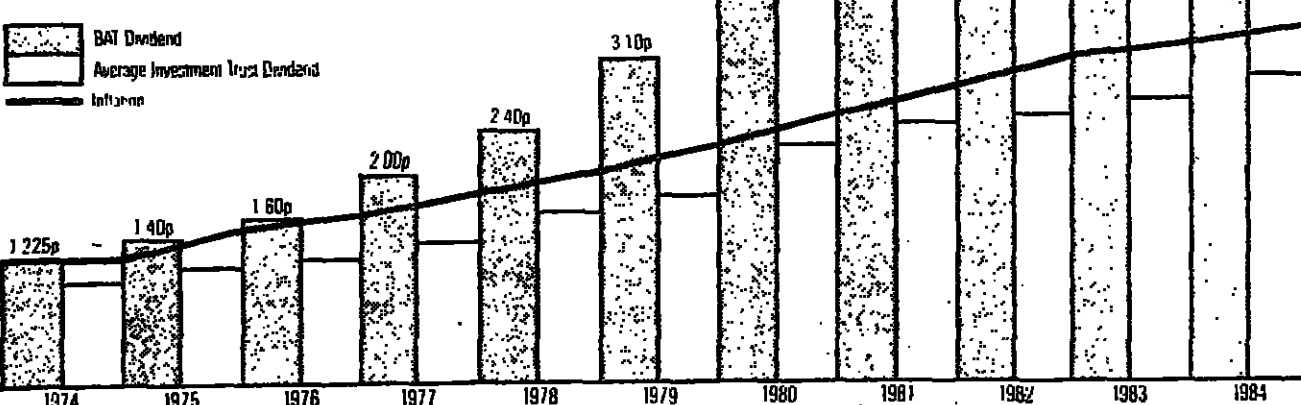
London fixed (per ounce):
am \$342, pm \$341.50
close \$341.25-341.75 (£280.50-£281)
Krugerrand (per coin):
\$351-352.50 (£276.25-277.75)
Sovereigns (new):
\$80.50-81.50 (£66-67)
Excludes VAT

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124/11

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Equities untroubled by oil price fears

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Equities ended another eventful British Telecom account on a firm note yesterday, shrugging off worries about the resilience of spot oil prices.

At the close, the FT 30-share index, helped by new time buying and a firm Wall Street opening, had transformed earlier losses into a modest gain. The index closed just 0.4 points higher at 910.3 points. It started the account at 900.1 points.

The FT-SE index also recorded a modest gain. Government stocks, despite a weak showing by sterling, finished the day with gains of up to 1.4.

Once again the BT flotation dominated the proceedings. Trading was modest with most stockmarket minds directed towards next week's BT application deadline.

The gap between the two tiers of the local authority housing bond market is widening. The stock of local authorities which could be rate capped and may, therefore, fail to meet their interest obligations, is now being traded by as much as 1.5 below the prices quoted for other comparable authorities. About 18 are subject to the cut-price approach.

What little activity there was stemmed largely from take-over and special situation stocks.

Among the leaders to display a little exuberance were Distillers Co; Hanson Trust (figures soon) and Trusthouse Forte.

Lucas Industries continued to respond to recent good figures and continuing take-over thoughts. The shares jumped 12p to 279p, highest this year.

Johanson Matthey slipped 4p again to 86p as talks on the future of the precious metals

group continue. After the virtual demise of the Matthey banking subsidiary this autumn, analysts are now worried about prospects for the rest of the bullion dealing-to-metals refining business.

On the printing and packaging pitches, John Waddington dropped 33p to 520p following Thursday's offer document from British Printing & Communications Corporation. BPCC, led by chairman, Mr Robert Maxwell, keeps its 500p a share cash bid open until December 13, but sounds less hopeful of success than previously. BPCC is making a second takeover attempt on the Monopoly game makers; the first came in August 1983.

DRG, another takeover favourite in the paper and printing world, slipped 3p to 146p. Market hopes for a bid from the old Dickinson Robinson company, well known for its Basilidon Bond products, are fading fast.

Share prices of stores groups slipped backwards, taking their tone from the end of account lechery. MFI, which earlier in the week gained a price boost from optimism on the chances of Sunday trading for retailers, fell 5p to 232p. Burton dropped 7p to 391p, having had plenty of investment support recently, and Marks and Spencer slipped 2p to 120p. M & S is still suffering from City concern for its women's fashions sales.

NSS Newsagents corrected part of Thursday's markdown, rising 4p to 108p. The retail chain has long been subject to takeover rumours, although they have died down recently. NSS report full year figures next month.

Style, the shoe retailers, fell 5p to 146p as the market waits to hear from British Land. The

latter has built up a more than 7 per cent stake in property-rich Stylo, and City men have strong hopes of a takeover bid on the way, although their has been little sign of action in recent weeks.

Oil shares started the day in poor style again, but later showed more firmness. Analysts and investors alike are waiting on developments in world fuel markets, having seen plenty of speculation in recent days.

Analysts at Quilter Goodson, the stockbroking firm, are growing more optimistic about the forthcoming British Telecom issue. Apart from being overwhelmed by the heavy response for shares from the general public - Quilters is helping people fill in application forms at 24 Debenhams stores - the firm has now told clients: "We are buyers of the shares up to a price of 100p." Short-term, the broker says, such a price is warranted.

Prices for leading and second-line oil shares ended the day within a penny or two of opening levels.

Royal Dutch and Shell shares came in for above average attention, following rumours that the US group is building up cash for a large acquisition.

Mobil Oil and Phillips Petroleum have both been mentioned as targets, but a spokesman for Shell would not comment on acquisition plans.

Analysts point out that Shell Oil of the US, still has to complete its buying-in of minority holdings. Both Royal Dutch and Shell shares dipped several pence early in the day, before closing pennies above the initial opening level at 403.3p and 613p respectively.

Extel, the communications group, continued to register disappointment with this week's figures, falling 8p to 298p. GRA Group, on expectations of development riches from its greyhound stadia, rose 3 1/2p to 64p.

Fortnum and Mason, the Piccadilly store controlled by the Weston family, became the latest food share to come under the merger fever which is gripping the industry, jumping 1 1/2p to 223p. But the market in the shares is exceedingly thin. The two bids left Cullens Stores "A" shares a little higher and the ordinary shares a shade lower.

Access Satellite International, the controversial maker of new style scaffolding for the construction industry, achieved a scintillating market debut, despite a welter of adverse comment.

The company, which was reversed into the old Morland Securities, hit 188p against a 160p tender striking price.

Bank shares were quiet although Lloyds continued to be unsettled by problems of Saudi Arabia debt problems and fell 5p to 509p.

Metal Closures Group, the West Midlands suppliers to the packaging industry, jumped 14p to 162p, making a two-day gain of 26p, as old stock market talk of a bid revived.

But Mr Peter Jones, company secretary at Metal Closures, says: "We know of absolutely no reason for the share price movement. We have been the subject of speculation for so long, I find it all rather tiresome."

Booker McConnell recovered 4p to 209p after Thursday's disappointments regarding the bid for Booker from Dee Corporation. Dee announced its

purchase of International Stores from BAT Industries for £180 million and left investors little hope that the bid for Booker would proceed.

Cope Allman International, the industrial group controlled by Hawley Group and British Car Auctions, rose 7p to 125p as the market heard that Mr Michael Doherty, chief executive at Cope, has bought 250,000 shares in recent days.

The City is also pleased by circulars last week from two stockbroking firms, Phillips & Drew and Smith Keen Cutler. Both firms put a firm "buy" tag on Cope shares.

Insurance brokers were full of life, with C E Heath leading the way with a 17p rise to 510p. The shares are still enjoying support after Tuesday's announcement of £13.7 million profits, up £4.39 million, for the first six months of this year.

Mr Stuart Walsley, the chemical guru at W Greenwell, the broker, is impressed with the US operations of Ellis and Everard.

Wair has confirmed his view that Ellis has hit upon the right formula for the US market and he continues to recommend the shares, now 184p.

Willis Faber followed the sector trend with a 9p rise to 515p, and Hogg Robinson went 3p better to 208p. Sedgwick Group gained 2p to 299p.

Raybeck, the fashion group, edged forward 1p to 31p on take over hopes.

Chloride eased 2p to 32p on its profits announcement and Wedgwood jumped 11p to 190p after doubled profits. British Syphon eased 1p to 76p on the rejection of its bid for East Lancashire Paper Group.

Currys Group was unchanged at 507p as Dixons Group, which is bidding for it, announced it had 42.3 per cent of the equity.

Wedgwood continues to break new ground

Wedgwood, the fine china manufacturer, continued to break new ground, after record profits of £10.6m last year, when it announced interim pretax profits up 108 per cent to £5.95m on turnover 9 per cent higher at £68.9m.

Sales actually rose more than 9 per cent, because the comparative figures include the now closed US Franciscan production.

The increase was well spread worldwide, with the only weakness coming from Europe, where the Deutschmark is a little low for the company's liking. Exports to North America continued to power ahead at 40 per cent of total exports, and in Japan, where Wedgwood set up its own operations two years ago, success is coming faster than expected.

Volume rose by 10 per cent and price increases were kept low. Productivity improved from previous years' spending on new methods.

Taxable profits outstripped the 60 per cent advance in operating profits, because funding costs more than halved. Slightly lower interest rates and borrowings in low interest rate currencies like marks and yen helped. Capital spending is set to rise by about £2m to around £4.5m this year, but will be funded internally.

The outlook for Wedgwood remained buoyant with strong spending by tourists in Britain continuing and the signs auguring well for an excellent Christmas.

The rate of profits increase cannot be maintained, because last year's second half had begun to see a marked turnaround after a poor first half. However, full-year taxable profits of £15m look feasible, putting the shares, up 10p to a new high at 189p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 8.5. Not at all demanding.

The tax charge is slightly lower at 44 per cent as a result of the Budget. The dividend was raised 22 per cent to 2.75p and, assuming a similar increase at the final, the prospective yield is 5.3 per cent.

Chloride

Chloride's resolute return to respectability continues, with the payment resumed on the group's cumulative convertible preference shares. A six-month dividend of 3.75 per cent, costing £677,510 has been declared, leaving £3.9 million of arrears.

But for the ordinary shareholders, who have seen no income throughout the eighties, this is scant consolation. Dr Gillibrand, former Chloride research head and now a dissident shareholder, is appalled enough by the continued withholding of an income payment on the equity to challenge chairman Sir Michael Edwards to a public debate on the management of the group.

This may not be necessary. Chloride sounds as if it is preparing to pay a token ordinary dividend at the final stage. But whether it should or not is questionable.

Margins in the US are under pressure, and cash flow is also taking a pounding from the cost of launching the recombination battery. The tax charge is abnormally high. At 33p, the shares are option money.

Gilts

Gilts started to pick up yesterday on the back of a strong-looking US bond market. The long end of the market, after opening slightly easier, recovered to put on 3/4 point, helping to revive the bulls' hopes.

Four trading sessions of relative weakness have not dented the basic optimism of Mr Tony Gibson, for example, who runs the gilt trading book at Clive Discount. Mr Gibson sees no reason why interest rates should not continue to fall. He would not be surprised if UK base rates touched 8% by next March and the end of the financial year.

Part of his optimism stems from an appreciation of what money supply trends may look like by early February. At that stage, with publication of the aggregates for banking January, the gilt market may well have seen three clear months of excellent monetary data, fol-

lowing a successful British Telecom flotation. Money supply figures, not external factors like sterling, are still the most important determinant of British interest rates.

Mr Gibson sees the dollar weakening, as the Federal Reserve moves to cut prime rates and the discount rate. But sterling is unlikely to appreciate against the dollar as the UK authorities will act to cut domestic rates, reversing their previous enthusiasm for a strong pound.

Mr Steve Shute and Mr Richard Dinswail-Smith of Wood MacKenzie are also keen on the market at current yields. Traders were wary of oil price trends and prone to inactivity. But like Mr Gibson, they reckoned that the Fed would act decisively soon to bring US rates down. A Fed funds rate last night of 8 1/2 per cent ought to encourage a further cut in the US discount rate and more action on prime rates.

But Mr Shute liked medium-dated, not long-dated, gilt edged stock. He failed to see how the long end of the US bond market could perform until serious moves had been made to tackle the US deficit. This uncertainty in turn would constrain UK longs.

At Phillips & Drew, Mr Stephen Lewis warned that fears about the softening trend in oil prices were having a corrosive effect on sentiment. Mr Lewis suspected that UK gilts might be near the top of the trading range, and the inability of long yields to penetrate the 10.3 per cent yield barrier was unsettling. Gilts would need some considerable help from the US before registering any worthwhile improvement.

On balance, US bonds looked far more attractive than the UK gilt market, especially since the US Treasury had succeeded in tying up a huge amount of funding, without devastating inflation expectations, which were still improving.

So Mr Lewis feared that the UK market might experience a less beneficial form of decoupling, where US bonds moved ahead but gilts were shunted into the yield equivalent of a siding.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Three months	366.50-371.00	Three months	3758-3760	EURODOLLARS		1986	9061
Official rates		1/2	3726	1/2	396	Dec-84	120	1200	9061
Official turnover figures		Time Steady		Time Firm		Jan-85	120	1200	9061
Silver in pounds per ounce		Cash	637.00-637.50	Time Firm		Jun-85	46	8912	9061
Price in pence per tray ounce		Cash	637.00-637.50	Time Firm		Dec-85	5	8912	9061
Ruckley Wolff & Co. Ltd. report		1/2 Steady	640.00-640.00						
COPPER HIGH GRADE		1/2 Steady	690.00-690.50						
Three months		1/2 Steady	690.00-690.50						
Time Firm		1/2 Steady	690.00-690.50						
TANDARD CATHODES		1/2 Steady	694.00-697.00						
Three months		1/2 Steady	694.00-697.00						
Time Firm		1/2 Steady	694.00-697.00						
ZINC HIGH GRADE		1/2 Steady	614.5-617.5						
Three months		1/2 Steady	614.5-617.5						
Time Firm		1/2 Steady	614.5-617.5						
TANDARD CATHODES		1/2 Steady	614.5-617.5						
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LEAD		1/2 Steady	367.00-368.50						
Three months		1/2 Steady	367.00-368.50						
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FAMILY MONEY MARKET

month up to October 1985 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 3.0 per cent supplement between October 1984 and October 1985 4 per cent bonus if

10% until five years to maturity,
 12% per cent after 10 years.
 Retirement Income Corporation, pur-
 chased in November 1977, £163.49
 including bonus and surrender.
National Savings Deposit Bond
 Minimum investment £250 max.
 £50,000, 12.75 per cent variable at
 14 weeks notice credited annually
 (including 12% of tax (reducing to
 12 per cent from two months' no-
 tice). Penalties in first year,
 thereafter 10%.
National Savings Certificates
 10% issue. Return to total free of
 tax. Equivalent to an annual interest
 rate over the five-year term of 8 per
 cent, maximum investment £5,000.
National Savings Yearly Plan
 One year regular savings plan
 with 10% interest. Minimum £250.
 Minimum £100 a month. Return over
 five years 9.06 per cent - tax free.
Personal equity yielding bonds
 10% fixed rate investments,
 10 per cent basic rate tax
 deducted (basic rate tax not claim-
 ed by non-taxpayer), mini-
 mum investment £1,000, pur-
 chased through stockbroker or bank.
Guaranteed Income Bonds
 10% paid net of basic rate tax,
 higher rate taxpayers have a
 further liability on maturity.
Prudential English Assurance 7.7 per
 cent. 3 years Capital Life 7.75 per
 cent. 3 years Capital Life 8.25 per
 cent. 5 years American Life 8.5 per
 cent. 5 years Property Equity 9.25
 per cent.
Local authority town hall bonds
 Short term, fixed rate investments,
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 per cent. 2 years Taif Ely 10.5 per
 cent. 3 years Taif Ely 11 per cent.
 5 years Reading 11 per cent. 7
 years Northampton 11 per cent. 9

INTERDEC

REST IS.

Save between £20 and £100 a month by standing order, and at the end of twelve months you will be issued with a Yearly Plan Certificate. Hold your Certificate for a further four years and you will earn the maximum rate of return.

TAX-FREE OVER 5 YEARS

Current rate. The current rate on offer is 9.06% p.a. tax-free over the five years. The table below shows how your money grows at this rate.

If you don't want to accept the rate offered, just cancel your Standing Order. It's that simple.

Carrying on. You needn't stop your payments after twelve months. We will write and tell you the guaranteed return on your next Certificate. The plan will simply continue automatically if you want to carry on.

You can take your money out at any time, but you will get the best rate of return if you keep each Certificate for a

Invest Here and Now. Complete the application form and Standing Order below and send them both by first class post to: The Savings Certificate Office, Yearly Plan Section, Durham DH99 1NS.

NATIONAL SAVINGS YEARLY PLAN

Compare the yield of 12% per annum that you could

YEARLY PLAN APPLICATION T9

THE SAVINGS CERTIFICATE OFFICE, YEARLY PLAN SECTION, DURHAM DH99 1NS.

Name and Address of Applicant (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname Mr/Ms/Miss

First Name(s)

Address

Date of Birth Day Month Year

(Date essential, but may be omitted)

Postcode

Will arrange monthly payments of: £ minimum £20 monthly (must be in multiples of £5)

For NATIONAL SAVINGS USE ONLY

YHS

YES

PC

PA

Other Payments to Yearly Plan: If payments are already being made to Yearly Plan on behalf of the above, please give the Yearly Plan numbers:

I accept the terms of the Prospectus dated 2 July 1984.

I am Applicant Date 19

Daytime Telephone Number

Yearly Plan Standing Order Mandate

Please pay to the Bank of England for the credit of National Savings

SORTING CODE NUMBER 10-21-99 ACCOUNT NUMBER 225777009 Quoting Reference:

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THE SPACES BELOW THIS IS FOR NATIONAL SAVINGS USE ONLY

the £ of each month until further notice in writing, the sum of £

Please enter full Name and Address of Bank

Name of account to be debited

Account Number

Bank Branch Sorting Code

Signature(s) of Account Holder(s)

Date 19

As may decline to accept instructions to charge standing orders to any types of account other than current accounts.

AMOUNT AMOUNT IN POUNDS

and debit my/our account accordingly

See highlight hand mirror of charges

*Yield shown is projected yield on survival for a male aged 43 next birthday, paying £20 1/2 month premium on normal rates, if bonuses including terminal bonus apply at current rates throughout. Future bonuses depend on future profits and cannot be guaranteed.


To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, 4 Coleman Street, London EC2B 2JT
I'd welcome further details on your: ☐ Endowment Policies;
☐ Lump Sum Investments; ☐ Unit-linked based alternatives.

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

Address _____

Precode _____

Date of Birth _____

 Tel: (Office) _____
Tel: (Home) _____

BEIDA

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

COMMODITIES

Safe gamble for the millionaire

As always, the best deals are only on offer to the really rich. If you can scrape together £1 million or more you can invest in commodities with virtually no risk.

The old established commodity trading firm, E. Bailey, in conjunction with consultant, Mr Nicholas Stacey, has put together an ingenious scheme which offers the investor with £1 million or more the security of a bank deposit, plus all the profit potential of dealing in commodities.

Under the scheme your £1 million is put on deposit with a leading bank, in your name, and there is an absolute guarantee that your capital will be repaid in full at the end of a year.

The interest on this deposit is discounted, and paid in advance to E. Bailey which uses the £100,000 odd to invest in commodity futures.

Mr Stacey explains: "Futures provide the high gearing associated with options but without the premium. Bailey stands behind the discretionary futures trading element and guarantees that the investor cannot lose more than the investment set aside for futures trading."

"Furthermore, because of the way the investment is structured, neither E. Bailey nor the guaranteeing bank has any right to call upon the client for further funds to meet any futures trading losses or to call upon the capital investment portion of the investment."

In other words you cannot lose more than the discounted interest on your £1 million.

"Even in poor market conditions, we should not expect to lose all the discounted interest."

Profits from the commodity trading element of the Capital Protection Plan are likely to be taxed under Schedule D Case VI which means that any losses on this speculative portion will not be available for offsetting against other income - whether from the account or otherwise.

And because the CPA invests in an interest-paying bank deposit to obtain the bank guarantee, interest on this will be taxable to the British investor and to most, if not all, other investors.

Full details of the Capital Protection Account are available from E. Bailey Commodities, International House, 1 St Catherine's Way, London, E1 9UN. (Tel: 01-481 1712).

Promoting Telecom

The Government's marketing type of British Telecom shares has dragged some unlikely promoters into the field in quest of the 2 per cent commission offered to intermediaries.

Debenhams, the department store, will be pushing British Telecom shares with advice from the firm of stockbrokers Quilter Goodson, with which Debenhams will be splitting the commission.

A spokesman for the Debenhams said: "The shares will be offered to customers in 24 selected stores. Brokers will be on duty in each of the participating stores to hand out the share offer document and explanatory leaflets, and to give advice."

Today is the last day the Quilter man will be on duty though you can, of course, obtain copies of the prospectus from banks and post offices. Applications have to be in by 10 am next Wednesday.

Benefits guide

If you think your employer is not being as generous as he might with the tax-free company perks, get a copy of *Employee Benefits 1984/85* - available free from Sun Life of Canada. This useful booklet highlights the tax advantages and disadvantages of everything from company cars to share option schemes and beneficial loans.

Write to Sun Life of Canada, Marketing & Development Department, 2, 3 and 4 Cockspur Street, London SW1 5BH. (Tel: 01-930 5400).

100% home loans

One hundred per cent home loans are on offer from the National Mutual Life Insurance Company. National Mutual's HomeSecure House Purchase Plan is a top-up mortgage, with a building society or bank providing the larger portion of the loan on a first charge and National Mutual providing the balance as a second mortgage, secured against a life policy.

You can borrow up to 100 per cent of the purchase price of the property or valuation - whichever is the lower - and get full life assurance cover. As an example, the after-tax relief cost of a National Mutual loan of £20,000 (in total) over 25 years at 13 per cent works out at £281.00 a month.

A straight repayment loan from a building society for the same amount at 13 per cent would be £256.80 a month - some £24 a month cheaper. But the National Mutual scheme has a surplus at the end of the term of more than £45,000 (estimated on current bonus rates). And building societies are not keen to make 100 per cent advances.

Full details from National Mutual Life, 5 Bow Churchyard, London EC4M 5DH.

BES update

The latest updates on Business Expansion Schemes still open to investors is available from John Harrison, an investment adviser. The guide covers technical details associated



"It's the Inspector's little joke - he's a blood donor"

with "approved" and "non-approved" funds and explains the differences, tax treatment of BES investments, a comparison with pensions, and full details of the funds on offer.

It is available, price £4, from Investment and Tax Planning Services, 7 Regal Lane, London NW1 7TH.

The "right" cards

Christmas shopping this year, it will pay you to make sure you use the "right" credit card for purchases this Christmas.

If you have a choice between Barclaycard or Access, use Barclaycard. Access charges 2.0 per cent a month, which works out at an annual percentage rate of 26.8 per cent. But Barclaycard charges only 1.75 per cent a month - an APR of 23.1 per cent.

If you are thinking of shopping at one of the Debenhams stores, you will do well to avoid using the in-house credit card as the monthly interest charge is 2.2 per cent, or an APR of 34.4 per cent.

If you have an American Express or Diners Club, these are the cheapest to use if you are habitually forgetful. Although you are, of course, expected to settle your account in full at the end of the month, if you run over the due date, you are not charged interest. In fact you have to leave the bill unpaid for several weeks before interest is charged.

Gilt conversion

Imperial Life has a gilt conversion plan which uses a series of gilts maturing in successive years to fund annual premiums into an Imperial Life 10-year, unit-linked, maximum investment plan.

This system can be used with any maximum investment plan, though not if you organize it through Imperial Life for obvious reasons. And the crucial factor in such schemes is the performance of the underlying unit-linked funds.

Imperial Life offers 12 unit-linked funds, with one or two a year. Like many others, Imperial Life's funds do not have a long track record.

But its managed fund which has been on the market since 1978 has shown an average performance.

Full details from: Imperial Life House, London Road, Guildford, Surrey. (Tel: 0843 571255).

Pinpoint extension

Barclaycard is extending the services available from Pinpoint, the credit card activated rail ticket purchasing machine at Euston station. Barclaycard holders can now buy rail tickets to five new destinations - Bournemouth, Bletchley, Leighton Buzzard, Milton Keynes and Watford Junction - in addition to the 27 initially available.

InterCity Saver tickets to 32 destinations for which the facility is available can now be purchased direct from the two machines outside the ticket office at Euston. This is in addition to ordinary singles, returns, weekend returns and awayday tickets.

Savings package

Yet another new savings account aimed at the young investor - this time from the West Bromwich Building Society which has enlisted a colourful character called "Mister Money" to promote the scheme. On opening an account each youngster will be given a package containing a Mister Money box plus a carrier bag and a pass book wallet.

To claim the package the account needs to be opened with at least £5. Interest is paid twice yearly, on March 31 and September 30 and at present is 7.75 per cent per annum net.

Twin options

The friendly society, Planned Savings has teamed up with Equity & Law to market Twin Saver, a joint with-profits and unit-linked 10-year saving scheme. It is not clear why Equity & Law needs Planned Savings to market this package since it could have sold it direct.

However, Equity & Law's unit-linked funds have a respectable performance track record and its long-term with-profits endowments have been in the top 10 every year for the past 10 years so the package, if you are prepared to save for 10 years, is an attractive one.

The minimum monthly premium is £20 and there is an annual minimum of £200. There is no tax relief on the premiums but the proceeds after 10 years are tax-free. Investors have the choice of investing in either or both the plans and they go for the unit-linked, the premiums can be paid into any of four funds: Equity & Law's Property, International, UK Equities or the Planned Savings Managed Fund.

Full details from: Equity & Law 20 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3ES or Planned Savings Management Ltd, 120 Church Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 1WD.

Big jump in burgundy prices

The first guide to price of fine burgundy after each vintage is the auction of wines at the Hospices de Beaune. Last Sunday, buyers from around the world gathered to taste and bid for a select range, as they do each November.

The result was a marked price increase on last year: red burgundies rose 19.5 per cent and white by almost 58 per cent.

The totals were FF12.97 million (£1.14 million) for red (compared with FF11.617 million in 1983), FF2.916 million for white (FF2.175 million), FF103.975 for Eau-de-Vie de Marc (FF119.445) and Fine de Bourgogne at FF10.260 (FF8.425).

This is the most publicized auction in France: the fight for the opening lots is even televised.

Bouchard Père, a noted burgundy shipper to Britain, compares the 1984 red burgundies with 1970 and 1974: there was little rot on the vine, but the evidence of many small berries owing to uneven flowering. This year the reds show very good colour, high but not abnormal acidity, and a lower-than-usual alcoholic level. They lack body and overall, it was not a great year. But the auction prices reflect the French and world demand.

The white burgundies are balanced, fruity and attractive. Last Sunday they were difficult to appraise on taste as most appeared to be going through their malo-lactic fermentation. It will be easier to judge all this year's burgundies at the sister auction in the Hospices de Nuits, which takes place on the Sunday before Palm Sunday.

Investors were not surprised by the price increase in the white burgundies, but the extent of the rise in the reds was not anticipated. Corton Charlemagne Françoise de Salins sold for FF105,000 per piece of 228 litres, an increase of 210 per cent for this outstanding white burgundy. Two reds showed quite different levels: Corton Charlotte Dumay rose 8.5 per cent to FF26,500 per piece and Pernand-Vergelesses fell 13 per cent to FF13,000.

Swiss, Japanese, Danish, West German, British and American buyers were present at the auction; the latter concentrated particularly on buying the whites. UK purchasers included Avery of Bristol (who bought Beaune, Hugues et Louis Batault for FF19,500 per piece), Barwell and Jones of Ipswich, Harrods, City Vintagers (who purchased Savigny-les-Beaune, Fouquet and at FF19,500, Hungerford

Wine in Berkshire, and Michael Morgan of London.

Wines from the Hospices de Beaune are much in demand. Since this year's vintage is unlikely to be shipped for about 3 years, investors may like to take up an offer of no less than 10 wines from vintages 1973 to 1982 from City Vintagers (47 Midland Road, London NW1 2AD).

The minimum quantity is 12 cases of one wine. A wine of particular note is Volnay Sauternes, Premier Cru, Jehan de Massol 1980 at £111.60 for 12 bottles excluding VAT and, in the whites, Meursault-Genevrières, Cuvée Badot 1979 at £119.40.

The same firm offers two Hospices wines in magnum: Beaune, Clos des Avoines 1977 at £165.30 and 1973 at £184.50, with a four to six week delivery period, as all these wines are shipped from France to order.

It is likely that, after the busy Christmas trading period, merchants will increase burgundies markedly to reflect replacement stock, so, early purchases of some of the finer past vintages are to be strongly recommended.

Conal Gregory

A complicated introduction to the joys of share ownership

As final application day for British Telecom shares approaches, one factor becoming apparent is this is no simple, straightforward share for introducing the British public to the joys of capitalism and wider share ownership. Complicated calculations are required to determine how many shares to buy and when to sell.

It is evident that if you are looking for income, BT shares are potentially an attractive deal. But just how attractive depends on a number of factors: your rate of tax, the partly paid nature of the shares, and how long you intend to hold them.

The highest possible yield from BT can be obtained by applying for no more than 400 shares costing £520, holding them until August 1985 when you have collected your two £18 telephone vouchers and the 3.9p per share dividend becomes payable - then selling immediately after.

This, however, makes one enormous assumption: that you will be able to sell in August next year for at least 130p a share. Clearly if everyone else is doing the same thing, there must be a more than even chance that the share price will dip at this point and you could be selling at a capital loss, or be forced to hang on to the shares until the price recovers - both of which will reduce the return.

Those who argue that institutional buying will continue to underpin the market ignore the possibility that fund managers may also seek to maximize the return on their shares, selling out in a big way in August 1985 after the first dividend payment and before the third tranche of the purchase price becomes payable, expecting to buy back in at a later date, (if they intend to keep BT as part of their portfolio) at a lower price.

Institutions have been involved in the British Telecom flotation as much for the fees



they can earn as for the intrinsic merit in the shares. The partly paid nature of the stock has ensured that the shares show an attractive-enough initial yield, but there are no sweeteners such as telephone vouchers or bonus issues to encourage the institutions to hang onto their shares. They had that at the beginning in the form of sales commission and fees.

So there is considerable potential for the share price to be volatile, not just around dividend dates as with conventional shares but also around cash call dates and telephone voucher dates, as private investors take their £18 and bail out.

Investors should also be aware that the yield is lower the more money you invest between £520 and £3,120 (2,400 shares, the maximum to obtain 12 vouchers).

This is because you get one £18 voucher for each £260 invested, but they do not all arrive in the first year, but are spread out, posted in pairs ever June and December, until December 1987.

For a £520 investment in 400 shares you receive vouchers worth £36 (tax free) plus a dividend payment in August 1985 of 3.9 pence per share net of basic rate tax.

This is worth a further £15.60 giving a total return of £51.60, or 29.92 net of basic rate tax for each £100 invested. (The actual percentage yield is much higher than this because the shares are only partly paid.)

However, if you invest £3,120 for 2,400 shares (the maximum to obtain 12 telephone vouchers) you receive in the first year the same two telephone vouchers as the investor with only 400 shares

plus the dividend of 3.9p per share. This gives you a net return of £36 in vouchers plus £93.60 in dividends with a total net return in the first year of only £4.15 for each £100 invested.

The situation improves for the investor with 2,400 shares in year two because he or she receives four vouchers: two in December 1985 and two in June 1986 plus whatever dividends are paid (expected to be 6.5p net per share). The investor with 400 shares receives only the dividends.

Readers who have followed the calculations so far will realize just how complex an analysis of BT is - and you probably do not need advice on whether or not to buy because you have done the sums already.

One thing is clear: for investors of any amount up to £1,040 or 800 shares the return is relatively attractive because of the partly-paid nature of the shares. At 800 shares you get the optimum number of vouchers, without having to cough up on the third call for money.

Telephone vouchers arrive in twos on June 25 1985 and December 23 1985 and you do not have to pay the final 40p per share until April 9 1986. Here again, to maximize your return you should hang on until December 1985, when the second pair of vouchers arrives and sell out before the third call for money.

Investors should bear in mind however, that the calculations all assume that you can sell out for at least 130p per share. While the likelihood is that you will be able to - it is not certain.

However many shares, if any, you decide to buy you must be convinced that British Telecom is a company with considerable profit potential worth hanging onto - and not just a boring, erstwhile nationalized utility.

Ian McDonald

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*To be November 1984, after 10% off price. Income requested (Source: Planned Savings November).

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TL2

DHSS strike will not stop higher payouts

Next week sees the rises in pensions and other social security benefits which millions of people have been waiting for.

As a result of the computer strike at the Department of Health and Social Security's main Newcastle centre, there has been some concern that many people would not be able to get the rise because they have not had their pension or benefit book renewed.

The DHSS has, however, taken steps to make sure that most do get their cash. Post offices are already paying pensions and benefits on the stubs of the old books. New covers showing the revised amounts of benefit have been prepared by the DHSS and sent to post offices. By attaching them to old books, the rise can be claimed.

The weekly sickness and maternity benefit rises from £24.95 to £27.25 (single) and from £41.95 to £44.05 (married).

these to the stubs, the post offices can see who should get what - and when.

People on supplementary benefit have their payment books dealt with at local DHSS offices and so are not affected by the strike. The DHSS is also confident that most of those who have their pensions paid directly into bank accounts will also get the rises on time.

What then, will next week bring? Pensions for retired people and widows go up by £1.75 a week. The new single retirement pension and widows' pension will be £35.80. A married couple will get £57.30, a rise of £2.80.

The weekly sickness and maternity benefit rises from £24.95 to £27.25 (single) and from £41.95 to £44.05 (married).

Unemployment benefit goes up from £27.05 to £28.45 for a single person and from £43.75 to £46 for a married man.

Supplementary benefits rise by about 4.7 per cent and there are also increases in war pensions and industrial injury payments.

Families on a low wage could also be in line for a "pay rise". The income threshold below which Family Income Sup-

plement is paid moves up from £85 to £90 a week, with an additional £10 on the limit for each child.

Child-benefit sees a 35p increase (to £6.85 a week). Single parents get an extra 20p on top of the special rate for the first child. This means a single parent will get a total of £11.10 for the first child in the family instead of just £6.85.

Ian McDonald

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= 14.11

9.65

= 13.79

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TRAVEL

Credit card set to take cover

Valuable new protection appears to be on its way for victims of failed tour companies or airlines which go bust.

Since Laker Airways collapsed two years ago the argument has continued about who should reimburse the victims of tour company bankruptcies. So far restitution has usually come from the credit card companies, travel agents' bonds or the Air Travel Reserve Fund on an ad hoc basis.

It now looks as though Barclaycard is about to cut the Gordian knot in the next few weeks by arranging its own travel insurance.

The problem, according to the Association of British Travel Agents is that under section 75 of the Consumer Credit Act, credit card companies are liable for the holiday losses incurred by their clients.

ABTA argues that a holiday-maker who loses out can only be reimbursed from its own bonds or from the ATRF if he has actually lost money. A holiday-maker who has paid by credit card, ABTA argues, should seek reimbursement from the credit card company first.

But the credit card companies object that it is absurd to expect them to stump up the whole cost of the holiday - especially when the victim may only have used his credit card to pay a deposit.

In fact Access and Barclaycard have now paid out several million pounds to victims of the Laker collapse as a good-will gesture.

Barclaycard withdrew from the ensuing negotiations about whom the traveller should claim from first. ABTA threatens to ban its members from accepting credit cards to pay for holidays - though it is doubtful whom this would have harmed most - travel agents or Barclaycard. But Barclaycard is about to produce its own unilateral solution. This is expected to take the form of an insurance policy underwritten by an insurance company covering possible losses.

Barclaycard says the holiday-maker will not be charged for the extra expense of paying for this cover. But it seems likely that Barclaycard will cover this cost by increasing the amount it charges the travel agent for using its card facility.

In the meantime, Access and ABTA are still trying to hammer out an agreement. "We hope the solution will be reached quite soon," ABTA says.

Richard Thomson

BUILDING SOCIETIES

Mortgages find new role as more than just home loans

Leeds Permanent has taken the unusual step of notifying its mortgage borrowers that it is willing to make loans by adding to the existing mortgage for purposes other than buying or improving property.

"We would be prepared to lend money for such things as buying a car", said the Leeds, as long as the loan was secured against the borrowers property.

The merit of such loans is that they are at ordinary mortgage rates which beat clearing personal loans now 18 per cent or more. They can also be paid back over 25 or 30 years rather than 3 or 5 years on bank loans.

Now that mortgage lenders are flush with funds there is increasing evidence that the Leeds is not the only one eager to encourage borrowers.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester, for example, is happy to lend on this basis for purposes as diverse as paying school fees, expanding a business or buying a car. The American banks, Chemical Bank and Citibank Savings, which have recently broken into the mortgage market, are also keen to offer remortgages for amounts larger than your existing loan. Lloyds Bank announced this week that it, too, was willing to consider remortgages.

Building societies will only grant a second loan to a borrower who already has a first mortgage with them. They are not allowed to lend on second mortgages.

If your building society is not willing to give you the extra loan you can, of course, refinance the existing loan and borrow extra from one of the banks in the remortgage market. But this could be costly unless you are getting a big interest rate reduction because you will

BUILDING SOCIETY BEST BUYS					
	Min Invest	True Interest rate(%)	Quoted interest rate(%)	Notice	Tel.
Guardian Supershares	1,000	10.51	10.25	6 mon	(01) 242 0811
Peterborough Flexi Plus	3,000	10.41	10.05	2 mon	(0733) 51491
Penrith Ullswater Bond	500	10.40	10.15	1 mon	(0788) 63675
Argyle Options Notice	1,000	10.25	10.00	1 mon	(01) 272 3935
Mornington Share	20,000	10.25	10.00	1 wk	(01) 267 2971
Mornington Share	10,000	10.04	9.8	-	(01) 267 2971

Source: Building Society Choice

Society	HOW MUCH WILL YOUR HOME LOAN COST									
	Up to £15,000	15,000-20,000	20,000-25,000	25,000-30,000	30,000-35,000	35,000-40,000	40,000-45,000	45,000-50,000	Over 50,000	
Abbey National	11.875	12.125	12.125	12.375	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	
Alliance	12.00	12.50	12.50	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	
Anglia	11.875	12.375	12.375	12.375	12.875	13.375	13.375	13.375	13.375	
Cheltenham & Gloucester	11.75	11.75	12.25	12.25	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	
C&G Gold Loan	11.875	11.875	11.875	11.375	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	
Hallifax	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.25	12.5	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	
Leeds	12.1	12.1	12.5	12.5	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	
Lancaster National & Provincial	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	
Nationwide	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	
Woolwich	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	
Barclays	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	12.125	
Lloyds	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	
Midland	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	
National Westminster	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	

Tables compiled by Pauline Rennie-Peyton

incur solicitors fees in making the transfer. It may not be worth it.

Loans for cars and the like do not qualify for mortgage interest tax relief. However, if your mortgage is already £30,000 or more this is irrelevant.

Some societies, such as the Cheltenham & Gloucester, insist, if the extra loan is "non-qualifying", both it and the entire original mortgage must be put on a gross repayment basis. This will increase the monthly repayments (with tax

relief on the first mortgage being reclaimed direct from the Revenue). Ultimately, it could be an advantage if you put your loan on an increasing net repayment basis to reduce the early repayments.

One drawback you must watch out for in taking an extra loan, is that it could take you over the threshold into a higher rate of interest. Since it is added on to your existing mortgage you could fall victim to building society differentials and have to pay a higher rate on all your borrowings. This will not

happen if you borrow from one of the banks or building societies which charge the same on all their loans.

Building societies are aware that at least some of the money they lend as qualifying purposes. They point out that it is up to the borrower to be honest and to say what the loan is intended for. They are usually willing, for example, to pay off a borrower's bank loan as part of a remortgage arrangement on the assumption that the loan was used for a qualifying purpose.

The societies insist that whether a loan qualifies for relief is not a matter between the borrower and the Inland Revenue.

R.T.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Adam & Company	10 %
Barclays	9 3/4 %
BCCI	10 %
Citibank Savings	11 1/2 %
Consolidated Cards	10 1/2 %
Continental Trust	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %
Citibank NA	10 %

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6 1/2 %; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7 1/4 %; £50,000 and over, 8 %.

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Financial Times, 11th Feb '84

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FAMILY BOND SERIES	LAUNCH DATE	UNIT PRICE GROWTH
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CAPITAL FUND	APR 1980	+26.99% p.a.
GROWTH FUND	OCT 1983	+45.06% p.a.

N.B. Unit Prices can fall as well as rise. Figures as at 30th September 1984.
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I am already an investor in a Friendly Society Yes/No

I am an existing Towry Law client Yes/No

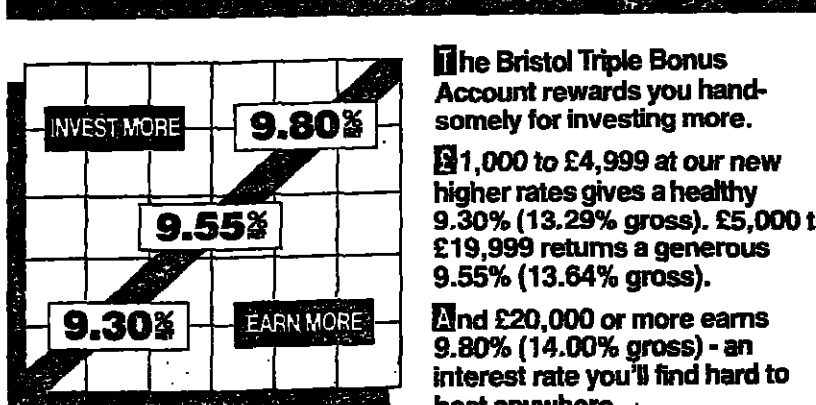
Name

Address

This plan is not applicable to the Republic of Ireland. T241184

9.8% NET

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British Telecommunications plc

Offer for Sale

by
Kleinwort, Benson Limited
on behalf of

**The Secretary of State
for Trade and Industry**

of up to

**3,012,000,000 ordinary shares
at 130p per share**

50p is payable now

40p is payable on 24th June 1985

40p is payable on 9th April 1986

Introduction

The Government is now selling up to 3,012,000,000 ordinary shares—50 2% of the Company's ordinary share capital, some of these are planned to be offered in the United States of America, Canada and Japan. About 47% of the shares to be offered are being reserved for certain UK institutional investors. Investors in British Telecom will qualify for dividends, will receive the annual report and accounts, and will also be able to vote at general meetings.

Relationship with the Government

Following the offer, the Government will own 49.8% of the ordinary shares. It will not dispose of any of these (except under the share bonus arrangements) before 9th April 1986. It does not intend to use its rights as an ordinary shareholder to intervene in the commercial decisions of British Telecom and does not expect to vote its shareholding on resolutions at general meetings, although it retains the power to do so.

Attitude of the Labour Party

The Labour Party has called for the renationalisation of British Telecom with compensation to be paid on the basis of no speculative gain.

British Telecom and its Business

British Telecom is the principal supplier of telecommunication services in the United Kingdom. It operates one of the largest telephone networks in the world. British Telecom's main business is the provision of local, national and international telephone services to its customers. It is also the major supplier of telephone apparatus for rent or purchase. It provides a range of other services including telex, radiophone, radiopaging, data communications and information services.

British Telecom employs about 240,000 people, with many different skills. The Board of Directors is headed by the Chairman and Chief Executive, Sir George Jefferson.

British Telecom has five operating divisions:

Local Communications Services

LCS provides the local telephone service, which is also the gateway to the trunk and international telephone networks. It is by far the largest of British Telecom's divisions, employing about 200,000 people. At 31st March 1984, there were some 20 million lines in service, an increase of more than half a million during the year. On average, more than 60 million calls are made each day. LCS is also responsible for the sale and rental of apparatus, including telephones and business exchanges, and the public call box service.

National Networks

National Networks runs the trunk telephone service. It also offers a range of specialised services for business users, including the inland telex network and high speed links between computers. For radio and television broadcasters, it provides networks for the switching and transmission of sound and vision programme material.

BT International

BTI provides international telephone services. It also provides maritime and offshore communications and specialised international business services, including telex and private circuits. Its wide range of telecommunication facilities includes 44 radio stations, 3 satellite earth stations and interests in 54 submarine cables throughout the world.

BT Enterprises

BTE supplies, mainly through LCS, telecommunication apparatus for both businesses and consumers. Most is bought from outside manufacturers. It also operates national radiopaging and radiophone systems, Yellow Pages and the Prestel information service. It is investing in cellular radio.

Development and Procurement

This division carries out research and development, principally at its laboratories at Martlesham in Suffolk. They are widely regarded as one of the leading telecommunication research centres in the world. Last year, British Telecom spent nearly £180 million on research and development.

This division is also responsible for the purchase of equipment used by British Telecom to provide telecommunication services. British Telecom's plans allow for total capital expenditure of about £1,800 million in this financial year.

British Telecom is undertaking a modernisation programme involving the installation of digital transmission and switching equipment (mainly System X).

Regulation and Competition

British Telecom operates within a framework of regulation for telecommunications introduced by Act of Parliament this year. This is designed to protect the customer and to encourage competition. British Telecom now runs its public networks under a licence. This obliges British Telecom to provide nationwide services including in rural areas and to continue certain community services, such as '999' calls, services for the disabled and public call boxes.

In each of the next five years, any overall change in prices for line rental and almost all inland telephone calls is limited to 3% below the general rate of inflation ('RPI-X'). Prices for the other services, 45% of turnover, are not regulated. An independent Director General of Telecommunications is responsible for enforcing licence conditions and can initiate licence changes.

The Government's policy is to increase competition in telecommunications. It has already licensed one other national network operator, Mercury. Competition is expected to develop additionally from cellular radio and cable TV operators and, in due course, from other sources such as resale of capacity on private circuits and perhaps other networks. Competition in the supply of customers' apparatus is also continuing to develop.

Financial Information

The financial record of British Telecom is summarised below. Throughout the five years to 31st March 1984, British Telecom was in the public sector. The results for the three years to 31st March 1983 benefited from substantial price increases made in 1980 and 1981. The fall in profits in the year ended 31st March 1984 reflected the fact that prices of the main services were held steady or reduced in the two years to November 1983. The increase in turnover attributable to growth in business volume in the four years to 31st March 1984 was about 5%, 6%, 5% and 6% respectively.

	Year ended 31st March					Unaudited three months ended
£ million	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	30th June 1984
Turnover	3,601	4,570	5,763	6,414	6,876	1,812
Profit on ordinary activities before interest	854	1,114	1,492	1,580	1,534	453
Net interest payable	537	544	556	549	544	134
Profit before taxation	317	570	936	1,031	990	319

Note. These figures have been extracted from the full prospectus, where more detailed information is provided.

Profit Forecast

In the full prospectus the Directors state that trading conditions since 30th June 1984 have been satisfactory; they also consider that, on the assumptions set out therein and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the profit before taxation for the year ending 31st March 1985 is unlikely to be less than £1,350 million. £254 million of the forecast increase in profit is attributable to special factors which apply for the first time in the current year.

British Telecom expects to pay tax on its profit for the first time for the year ending 31st March 1986 but a provision for deferred taxation will be required in the accounts for the current year.

This mini-prospectus gives a brief description of British Telecom and the terms of the offer. It also contains the Application Form for buying shares and instructions on how to complete it. The minimum investment is £260, payable in three instalments.

If you buy shares under the offer, you may be eligible to receive free of charge either bill vouchers, for use in paying your British Telecom telephone bill, or a share bonus. Details appear on this page.

Your completed Application Form must arrive not later than 10 am on 28th November 1984. You may apply only once. In applying for shares, you will be treated as applying under the terms of the full prospectus and the Instalment Agreement which governs the payment of instalments.

If you want further information, you should read the full prospectus. You may inspect or obtain a copy of the full prospectus at United Kingdom clearing bank branches, post offices and the offices of the stockbrokers appointed as Regional Coordinators listed on the next page.

Arrangements have been made for the full prospectus to be published in the Daily Telegraph, the Financial Times, The Guardian and The Times on 20th November 1984.

If you want advice or more information, you should consult a bank manager, stockbroker, accountant, solicitor or other professional adviser. There are no dealing costs if you buy shares under the offer. Special arrangements have been made for investors to deal at a reduced cost in small numbers of shares after the offer until 31st December 1985 through the Regional Coordinators. They will also give advice on completing and delivering the Application Form.

Pro Forma Financial Information

In preparation for the move out of the public sector, the business was transferred on 6th August 1984 to a public limited company and its capital structure was changed.

If the new capital structure had been in place for the whole of the year ending 31st March 1985, the profit before taxation corresponding to the figure of £1,350 million would be £1,401 million, due to lower interest costs. After providing for deferred taxation of £504 million and the cost of preference dividends of £63 million, the profit attributable to ordinary shareholders would be £284 million or 13.9 pence per ordinary share.

A summarised balance sheet at 31st March 1984, as if the new capital structure had then been in place, is as follows:

Total fixed assets	£m
Net current assets	8,840
	317
	9,157
Less: Long term liabilities	(3,167)
	5,990
Ordinary shareholders' funds	5,240
Preference shares	750
	5,990

Dividends

The Directors state in the full prospectus that, as almost eight months of the current financial year have already passed, they expect to pay a single dividend for this year; in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, this is expected to be 3.9 pence net per ordinary share, payable in August 1985.

If the offer had taken place at the beginning of this financial year, the Directors would have expected to recommend dividends totalling 6.5 pence net per ordinary share, representing a gross yield at the offer price of approximately 7.14%. Dividends will normally be payable in February and September.

Prospects

This section summarises statements made by the Board of Directors in the full prospectus.

The Board believes that the market for telecommunication products and services will continue to grow, that telecommunications will converge increasingly with computing and other information services and that telecommunications and information technology will become increasingly an international business.

The Board is confident that British Telecom's market share of network traffic will remain high despite an increasingly competitive environment. It believes that there is still scope for enlargement of the telephone network and greater scope for its enhanced use. It intends to stimulate use of the network by improving the quality of service and by providing modern equipment and new facilities to customers. The Board will seek to take advantage of the growth potential of other telecommunications services, such as data, text and facsimile communications. While competition in the local network is likely to develop slowly, trunk services face competition more immediately, initially on routes between major cities and for the largest customers. British Telecom is meeting competition by the modernisation of the trunk network and by the development of specialised business services. International services offer opportunities for continued growth in a competitive environment. British Telecom will continue to sell into the new competitive market for customers' apparatus.

The Board believes that there is scope for greater cost efficiency, both through better use of resources and through new technology. Management will continue to discuss necessary changes with the unions concerned in order to mitigate any industrial relations problems which arise especially as the pace of modernisation accelerates.

An important factor in the impact on British Telecom of the new regulatory system will be the manner in which the Director General exercises his discretion and the manner in which the Secretary of State exercises his licensing power.

The developments summarised above, and the move out of the public sector, offer British Telecom new opportunities in growing telecommunication and information technology markets. The Board feels that there are good prospects for the future development of the business.

Application and Instalment Arrangements

If you wish to apply for shares, you must complete and return the Application Form which should arrive not later than 10 am on 28th November 1984. Once delivered, applications cannot in practice be withdrawn. If there is a big demand for shares, you may receive fewer shares than you apply for, or in some cases none. If this happens, you will receive a refund of the money which has not been used (without interest). You may apply only once. The right is reserved to reject, in whole or in part, any application.

As soon as possible after 6th December 1984 you should receive a document of title (a 'Letter of Acceptance') showing how many shares you have bought. On 31st May 1985, it will be replaced by a Certificate, which will be sent to you together

with a notice calling for payment of the second instalment (due on 24th June 1985). After you have paid the final instalment on 9th April 1986, you will receive your final Share Certificate. If you sell your shares, the purchaser will have to pay any further instalments once the transfer has been registered. If you do not pay any instalment for which you are liable, your right to the shares for which you have not paid may be cancelled. In that case, your instalments will be returned to you without interest, less any loss the Government may suffer as a result of your failure to pay.

Bill Voucher and Share Bonus Arrangements

If you buy shares under the offer you may be eligible to receive from the Government free of charge EITHER bill vouchers for use against British Telecom telephone bills OR a share bonus. These arrangements are special to the offer.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for bill vouchers or the share bonus, you must apply for shares as an individual investing for yourself alone; or you must be investing jointly with one other individual, solely on behalf of one or both of you. Companies, partnerships, firms, trusts, associations and clubs are not eligible unless they are acting as nominees for which there are special provisions described below.

Bill Vouchers

Each bill voucher will have a face value of £18. The number of vouchers you receive will depend on the number of shares continuously held by you from the acceptance of your application for shares to 3 pm on certain qualifying dates, as shown in the table below. The maximum number of vouchers you can receive is 12.

Number of shares held	Qualifying Dates						Total
	25th June 1985	23rd December 1985	23rd June 1986	23rd December 1986	23rd June 1987	23rd December 1987	
200 to 399	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
400 to 799	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
800 to 1,599	3	2	-	-	-	-	4
1,600 to 2,399	2	2	2	3	-	-	8
2,400 or more	2	2	2	2	2	2	12

(For example, if you buy 800 shares under the offer, you will be sent a total of 4 vouchers provided you hold that number of shares until including 23rd December 1985. If you hold that number only of shares until 22nd December 1985, you will receive only 3 vouchers.)

Vouchers will be posted to you about six weeks after each qualifying date. In the case of joint investors, vouchers will be posted to the first named investor on the Application Form.

Conditions for Use of Vouchers

You will only be able to use one voucher against each telephone bill (which means a British Telecom bill or budget account statement including charges for telephone services). Each voucher will expire ten months after its qualifying date. You may use a voucher when paying a telephone bill by any method currently available (and which continues to be available at the time of payment) except at a bank or by means of a bank giro payment or a National Girobank transfer. If you normally pay by standing order or direct debit, you will have to send the voucher with your telephone bill to your local British Telecom area office.

Vouchers will be issued in your name or, in the case of joint investors, in both names. They can only be used against your telephone bill or that of your husband or wife. If you are investing jointly with one other individual, the vouchers can be used against the bills of either of you or your spouses. When used, names on vouchers will be checked against names on telephone bills. You or your spouse must, if required, be prepared to complete a declaration that the voucher is being used in accordance with these conditions. If you use a voucher against a telephone bill which is for less than £18, a credit will be carried forward except in the case of a final bill for a particular telephone number when the credit will be lost.

Share Bonus

You will be entitled to one extra share for every ten shares continuously held by you from the acceptance of your application for shares to 3 pm on the qualifying date, 30th November 1987. Up to a maximum of 4,000 shares held by you will count for this purpose and therefore the maximum number of extra shares you can receive is 400. You will not receive fractions of shares.

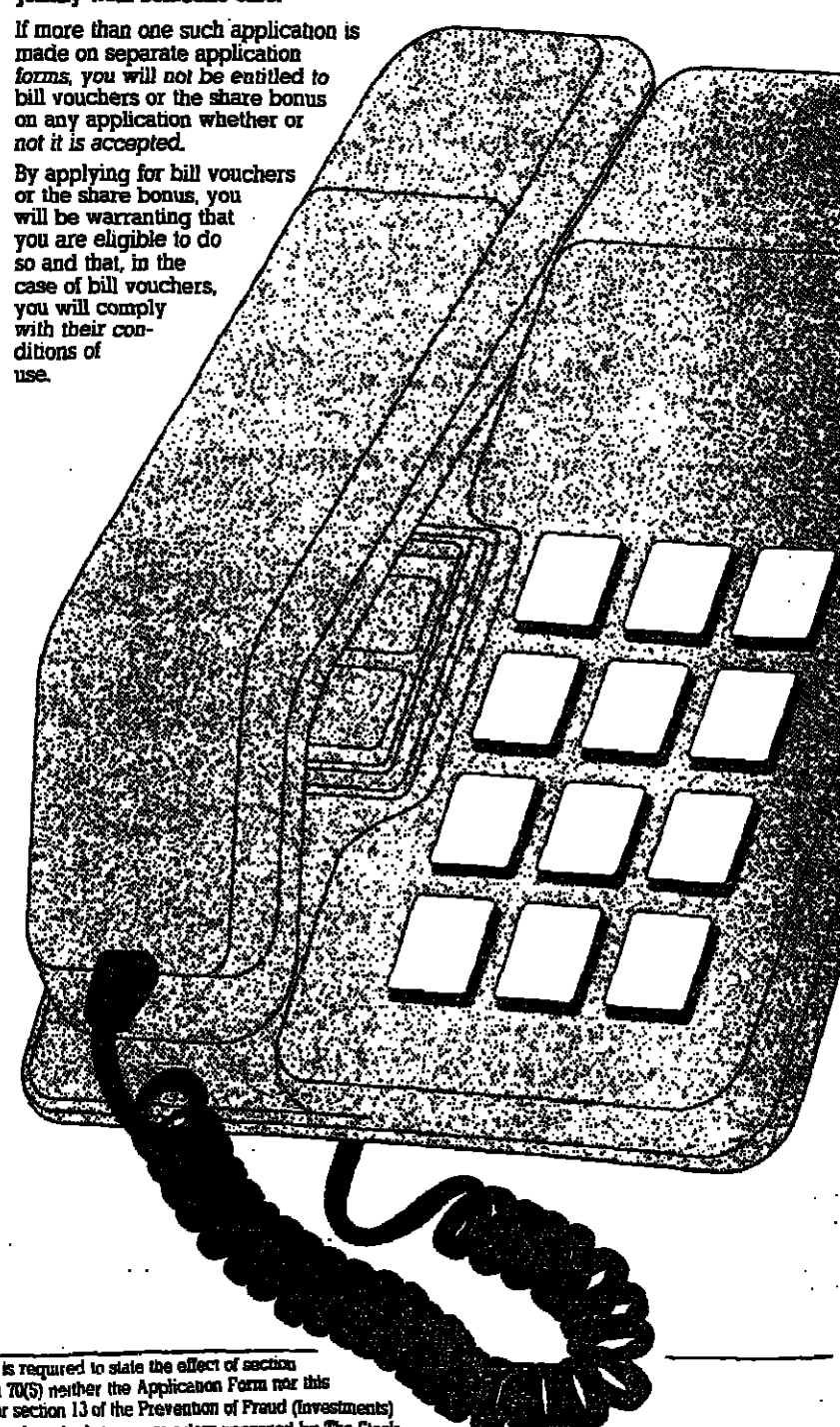
Those shares will be transferred to you as soon as practicable after the qualifying date (together with all rights attaching to those shares from the date of transfer). Any stamp duty on the transfer will be met by the Government.

Applying for Bill Vouchers or the Share Bonus

If you wish to apply for either bill vouchers or the share bonus, you must complete EITHER Box A OR Box B on the Application Form. If you complete both boxes, you will be deemed to have applied for bill vouchers only. Only one application for vouchers or the share bonus can be made on your behalf whether alone or jointly with someone else.

If more than one such application is made on separate application forms, you will not be entitled to bill vouchers or the share bonus on any application whether or not it is accepted.

By applying for bill vouchers or the share bonus, you will be warranting that you are eligible to do so and that, in the case of bill vouchers, you will comply with their conditions of use.



This mini-prospectus is not for distribution outside Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This mini-prospectus is a notice issued by the Secretary of State under section 70 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 and as such it is required to state the effect of sections 70(4) and (5). Under section 70(4) this mini-prospectus is deemed to incorporate the full prospectus and any application for shares made pursuant to it is deemed to have been made pursuant to the full prospectus. Under section 70(5) neither the Application Form nor this mini-prospectus is to be regarded as a prospectus for the purposes of sections 31 to 46 of the Companies Act 1948 or as an investment circular for the purposes of section 14 of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1939 or section 13 of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act (Northern Ireland) 1940. This is not the case, if this mini-prospectus does not comply with section 70(2), except for the purposes of determining the liability of persons other than the Secretary of State. The full prospectus comprises the listing particulars approved by The Stock Exchange pursuant to The Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations 1984. The full prospectus states that you are not entitled to return your shares and get your money back because of a misrepresentation made in good faith (without prejudice to your other rights) and that you may only rely on information included in this document and the full prospectus taken together.

Disposals of Shares and Loss of, and Changes in, Entitlement
Your entitlement to bill vouchers or the share bonus will depend on the minimum number of shares that you hold from the acceptance of your application for shares to relevant clearing dates. Therefore if you dispose of shares during that period and your shareholding falls below its initial level, your entitlement may be reduced accordingly (whether or not you later acquire more shares). In the case of joint investors, a disposal by either of them will be treated as a disposal by both.
Any entitlement to receive bill vouchers or the share bonus will cease on death (although vouchers already issued will remain valid). In the case of joint investors, the surviving investor will remain eligible for bill vouchers or the share bonus. You will not receive bill vouchers so long as any instalment due on your shares remains unpaid and you will lose all rights to bill vouchers or the share bonus if as a result some part of your entitlement to shares is cancelled or proceedings are commenced to recover the instalment. The number of shares necessary to qualify for bill vouchers or which will qualify for the share bonus will be amended pro rata (ignoring fractions), if there is any capitalisation issue or any consolidation or subdivision of the Company's share capital.

United Kingdom Tax Position
The Inland Revenue has confirmed that the following will be its practice under existing law. Bill vouchers will be free of income tax but will reduce the base cost of your shares (by the value obtained from the vouchers) for capital gains tax purposes. The share bonus will be free of income tax but will be treated for capital gains tax purposes as if acquired at market value on 30th November 1983. However, you will not be liable to capital gains tax unless, in the financial year when you dispose of your shares, the total chargeable gains of that year of you and your spouse exceed the annual exemption limit, at present £5,600. Dealers in securities are covered by different tax arrangements.

Employees and BTSS Pensioners
If you are an employee of British Telecom, you will not be eligible to apply for bill vouchers or the share bonus in respect of shares you acquire under the Government's Free Offer and Matching Offer. However, you will be eligible in respect of any shares you buy under the special priority/discount arrangements. If you are a BTSS pensioner, you will be eligible in respect of shares bought under your priority arrangements.

Applications by Nominees
Nominees may only apply for bill vouchers or the share bonus on behalf of one individual who would himself be eligible to apply. To qualify, the nominee must apply for shares jointly with the individual by entering the nominee's own name in Box 5 on the Application Form and the name of the beneficiary in Box 6. The nominee should sign Box 4 on the Application Form. Box 7 should be signed by the beneficiary or by the nominee on his behalf. Bill vouchers will be issued in the names of the nominee and the beneficiary but can only be used by the beneficiary or his spouse. A nominee means an investor who retains no beneficial interest in his shares nor any right to acquire such interest directly or indirectly from the beneficial owner.

Residents of Kingston-upon-Hull and the Channel Islands
Since bill vouchers can only be used against a British Telecom telephone bill, residents of Kingston-upon-Hull and the Channel Islands may wish to consider the share bonus.

Regional Coordinators

London
Harcourt Limited, Heron House,
810-820 High Holborn,
London WC1V 7PB. 01-404 0344
Cazhove & Co., 12 Tokenhouse Yard,
London EC2R 7AN. 01-588 2828
de Zoete & Bevan, 25 Finsbury Circus,
London EC2M 2EE. 01-588 4141
Scrimgeour, Kemp-Coo & Co.,
20 Capital Avenue,
London EC2R 7JS. 01-600 7895
Aberdeen
Parsons & Co., 25 Albany Place,
Aberdeen AB1 1YL. (0224) 588345
Belfast
Wm. F. Coates & Co., Northern Bank House,
8-9 Donegall Square North,
Belfast BT1 5LX. (0232) 223456

Birmingham
Albert & Sharp & Co.,
Edmund House, 12 Newhall Street,
Birmingham B3 2ER. 021-233 3003
Smith & Keen Cutler,
Exchange Buildings, Stephenson Place,
Birmingham B2 4NN. 021-543 9277
Bristol
Stock Beach & Co., Bristol & West Building,
Broad Quay, Bristol BS1 4DQ. (0272) 20051
Cardiff
Lyndon & Co., 113-116 Bute Street,
Cardiff CF1 1QS. (0222) 480000
Edinburgh
Wood Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., Erskine House,
88-73 Queen Street,
Edinburgh EH2 4NS. 031-225 8525
Bell, Lawrie, Macgregor & Co.,
P.O. Box 8, Erskine House, 88-73 Queen Street,
Edinburgh EH2 4AE. 031-225 2586

Glasgow
Peasey Easton & Co., P.O. Box 112,
24 George Square, Glasgow G2 1EB.
041-248 2911
Speirs & Jeffrey, 36 Renfield Street,
Glasgow G2 1NA. 041-248 4311
Lincoln
Hill Osborne & Co.,
Royal Insurance Building, Silver Street,
Lincoln LN2 1DV. (0532) 22244
Liverpool
Tilney & Co., 285 Sefton House,
Exchange Buildings, Liverpool L2 3P.
051-236 8000
Manchester
Henry Cooke, Lumdon Ltd.,
P.O. Box 369, Arkwright House,
Parsonage Gardens, Manchester M6C 3AH.
061-834 2332

Middlesbrough
Stancil Todd & Hodgson,
P.O. Box 84, City House, 203-208 Marine Road,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS4 2JE. (0542) 249211
Newcastle upon Tyne
West Speirs & Co.,
Commercial Union House, 39 Pilgrim Street,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6RQ. (0532) 611266
Plymouth
Wentaker & Co., Princess House,
Gastelle Walk, Plymouth PL1 1HG. (0753) 20971
Reading
Heseltine Moss & Co., 30-31 Prior Street,
Reading, Berkshire RG1 1AH. (0734) 595511
South East
Quiller Goodison & Co., Garmond House,
21-45 Grosvenor Street,
London EC2V 7LH. 01-600 4177

Instructions for Delivery of Your Application Form

DELIVERY—WHAT YOU MUST DO WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM AND PAYMENT IS SET OUT BELOW.

IT SHOULD ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN 10 AM ON 28TH NOVEMBER 1984.

EITHER SEND IT BY POST OR TAKE IT BY HAND TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES according to the first letters of your surname (or corporation name) shown in Box 5. For example, if your surname is Jones, you send it to Lloyds Bank Plc (H-L).

First letters of surname

A to CL
Bank of Scotland
Either
Registrar Department, 26A York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3EY
or 36 Threadneedle Street, London EC2P 2EH

CM to G
Barclays Bank PLC
Either
New Issues Department, P.O. Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HD
or Registrar's Department, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9EU

H to L
Lloyds Bank Plc
Either
Registrar's Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA
or Registrar's Department, P.O. Box 1000, 61 Moorgate, London EC3R 6EL

M to PH
National Westminster Bank PLC
Either
New Issues Department, P.O. Box 2000, Drapers Gardens, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2LP
or Registrar's Department, P.O. Box 600, Wine Street, Bristol BS9 7TX

PI to S
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Either
New Issues Department, P.O. Box 36, 34 Fettes Row, Edinburgh EH3 6UU
or Registrar's Department, 24 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9BA

T to Z
Midland Bank PLC
Stock Exchange Services Department, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA

OR TAKE IT BY HAND to any of the following addresses

(irrespective of the first letters of your surname):

Aberdeen The Royal Bank of Scotland, 40 Albany Place, Aberdeen
Belfast Bank of Ireland, 54 Donegall Place, Belfast
Birmingham Midland Bank, 130 New Street, Birmingham
Brighton Lloyds Bank, 171/173 North Street, Brighton
Bristol National Westminster Bank, 32 Corn Street, Bristol
Cardiff National Westminster Bank, 117 St. Mary Street, Cardiff
Channel Islands Lloyds Bank, 9 Broad Street, St. Helier, Jersey
Glasgow Bank of Scotland, 110 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow
Inverness The Royal Bank of Scotland, 98 Buchanan Street, Glasgow
Leeds Bank of Scotland, 9 High Street, Inverness
Liverpool Barclays Bank, 37 Park Row, Leeds
Manchester Barclays Bank, 4 Water Street, Liverpool
Newcastle upon Tyne Barclays Bank, 17 York Street, Manchester
Northampton Lloyds Bank, 9/17 Collingwood Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
Nottingham Midland Bank, 3 Wood Hill, Northampton
Oxford Midland Bank, 18 London Street, Nottingham
Plymouth Barclays Bank, Old Market Square, Nottingham
Southampton Midland Bank, 65 Cornmarket Street, Oxford
National Westminster Bank, St. Andrews Cross, Plymouth
Lloyds Bank, 19-21 High Street, Southampton

Notes on How to Complete and Deliver the Application Form

Your total investment	Amount you pay now	Number of shares you are applying for
£ 260	£ 100	200
£ 520	£ 200	400
£1,040	£ 400	800
£1,560	£ 600	1,200
£2,080	£ 800	1,600
£3,120	£1,200	2,400
£4,160	£1,600	3,200
£5,200	£2,000	4,000

Applicants for more than 4,000 shares should apply in multiples of 1,000 shares up to 20,000 shares, in multiples of 10,000 between 20,000 shares and 100,000 shares and in multiples of 50,000 shares thereafter.

1 Having decided the amount of your total investment and using the table above, put in Box 1 (in figures) the amount you pay now.
You may only apply for the numbers of shares set out above.
The amount you pay now is 50p per ordinary share. The second instalment of 40p is payable on 24th June 1985. The final instalment of 40p is payable on 9th April 1986. A reminder will be sent to investors before the second and final instalments become payable.

2 Using the table above, put in Box 2 (in figures) the number of ordinary shares for which you are applying.

3 For bill vouchers, put "YES" in Box A. For the share bonus, put "YES" in Box B. Complete one box only.
If you wish to apply for bill vouchers or the share bonus, you must complete Box A or B. If you complete both boxes, you will receive bill vouchers only. If you do not complete either box, you will not receive bill vouchers or the share bonus. You are advised to read the bill voucher and share bonus arrangements set out above (including the special arrangements for applications by nominees).

4 Sign the Application Form in Box 4.
The Application Form may be signed by someone else on your behalf if he is duly authorised to do so (individuals are reminded that, if they are signing for another person, they must enclose their power of attorney). A corporation should sign under the hand of a duly authorised official who should state his representative capacity.
By completing and delivering this Application Form, you declare that you are not a US or Canadian person (as defined in the full prospectus) and you are not applying on behalf of any such person.

5 Put your full name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 5.

6 You may apply jointly with other persons.
You must then arrange for the Application Form to be completed by or on behalf of all the other joint applicants (up to a maximum of three). Their full names and addresses should be put in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 6.
If you apply jointly with more than one other person, you will not be eligible for bill vouchers or the share bonus.

7 Box 7 must be signed by or on behalf of the joint applicants.

8 You must pin your cheque or bankers' draft to your completed Application Form. Your cheque or bankers' draft must be made payable to "BT Offer" for the amount payable on application and be crossed "Not Negotiable".
No receipt will be issued for this payment. Your cheque or bankers' draft must be drawn in sterling on an account at a branch (which must be in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques and bankers' drafts to be presented for payment through the clearing facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses (and must bear the appropriate sorting code number in the top right hand corner).
Applications may be accompanied by a cheque drawn by somebody else.

9 You must send the completed Application Form by post, or deliver it by hand, so as to arrive not later than 10 am on 28th November 1984. You will find the instructions for the posting or delivery of your Application Form above the Application Form. If you wish to post your Application Form, please mark your envelope "BT Offer", use first class post and allow at least two days for delivery.
The right is reserved to present all cheques and bankers' drafts for payment on receipt by the receiving bankers.

16th November 1984.

British Telecommunications plc Application Form

To:
The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry
Kleinwort, Benson Limited
Lloyds Bank Plc
British Telecommunications plc

I/We attach a payment for the amount payable now of

£

and I/We offer to purchase

Ordinary Shares in British Telecommunications plc at 130p per share on the terms and subject to the conditions set out in the full prospectus, comprising the listing particulars, dated 16th November 1984.

For the bill vouchers put "YES" in Box A. For the share bonus put "YES" in Box B. COMPLETE ONE BOX ONLY.

A. Bill Vouchers ☐

OR

B. Share Bonus ☐

Signature

USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Mr Mrs Miss or title Forename(s) (in full)
Surname
Address (in full)
Postcode

Pin here your cheque/bankers' draft for amount in Box 1

Fill in this section only when there is more than one applicant

Mr Mrs Miss or title	Forename(s)	Mr Mrs Miss or title	Forename(s)	Mr Mrs Miss or title	Forename(s)
Surname		Surname		Surname	
Address		Address		Address	
Postcode		Postcode		Postcode	

Signature Signature Signature

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

1 Acceptance No.
2 Shares accepted
3 Amount received
4 Amount payable
5 Amount
6 Cheque Number

RACING: GOLD CUP HERO CAN DEFY THE HANDICAPPER

Burrough Hill Lad to enter the Hennessy hall of fame

By Mandarin

Burrough Hill Lad can continue the magnificent record of top class chasers in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup by defying 12 st in what is bound to be testing conditions at Newbury today. Mandarin, Mill House, Arkle and Bregawn, are other Cheltenham Gold Cup winners who have also captured the coveted trophy. Now Burrough Hill Lad looks all set to follow in their hoof prints.

Everything will depend on whether this still improving eight-year-old is in the mood which saw him outpace Brown Chamberlain and Drumlagan at the National Hunt Festival last March.

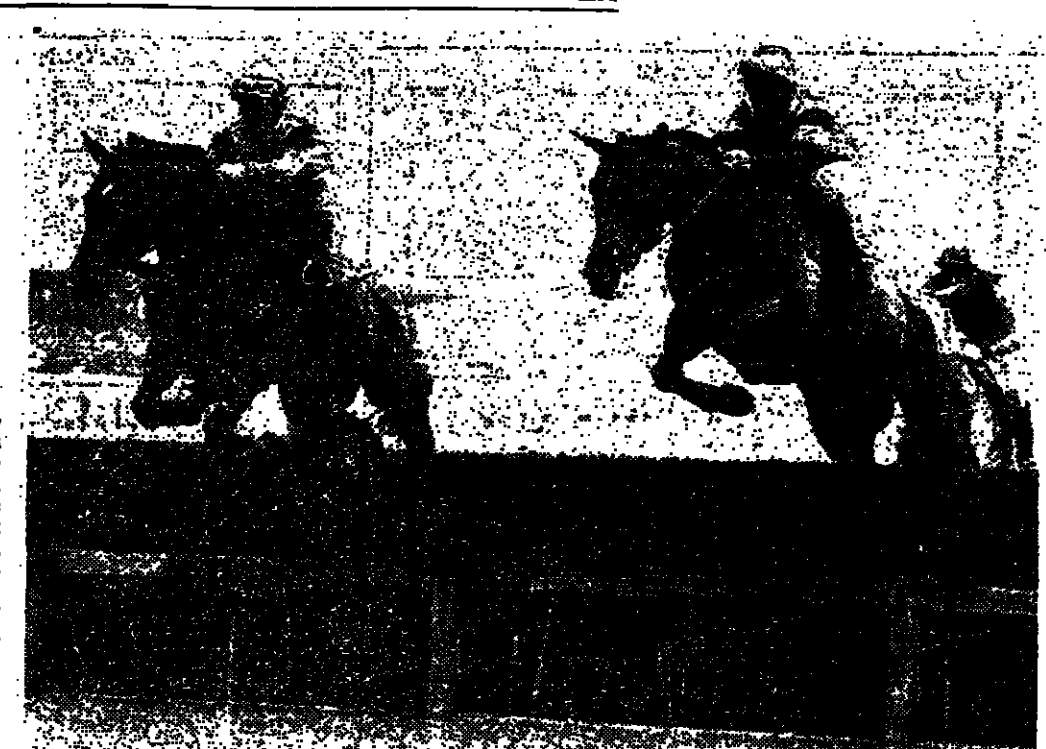
However, Jenny Pitman entertains few doubts on this particular score. "I only worry is that Burrough Hill Lad has had to have a hurried preparation, because of the firm ground on the gallops in the autumn. But he had a good school round when winning at Wincanton and worked well over two and a half miles on Wednesday. He will not be beaten through lack of fitness," said his trainer yesterday.

Make no mistake, the top weight faces a formidable task. Of the closest to him in the handicap, both Drumlagan and Everett have shown themselves to be in good form recently. Drumlagan is now 11lb better off for an 11 lengths defeat by Burrough Hill Lad at Cheltenham and the 1983 Whitbread Gold Cup winner will be in his clement in the yielding going.

Everett will be attempting to give Fulke Walwyn an incredible eighth triumph in the race. Kilian Hennessy's nine-year-old was impressive at Kempton in October and is thought to have sound each way prospects of making amends for his fall at the second-last fence behind Brown Chamberlain last year.

Gaye Chance finished second on that occasion, but the horse, who went on to win the Waterford Crystal Stayers Hurdle at Cheltenham, has never looked completely happy over fences and probably has too much to do at the weight.

Canny Danny, Tracy's Special and Earl's Brig look a likely trio to probe any weakness in



Glenfox (right) leads Royal Potion over the water jump on his way to victory in the Clonfield Chase at Newbury. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Against The Grain brings a smile back to Nicholson's face

By John Karter

The smile of David Nicholson shone like a beacon through the almost imperceptible gloom at Newbury yesterday.

The Slow-on-the-Wold trainer has had to endure a drought of almost East African proportions in recent weeks but after the devastating victory of Against the Grain in the Freshman's Novices Hurdle, "The Duke", as Nicholson has long been known, was again walking as all the better known bearer of old sobriquet, John Wayne.

Before yesterday's success, Nicholson had managed to win only one race in six weeks and he was at a loss to explain why his usually first division team had been performing more like a bunch of non-runners.

After describing Against the Grain's victory as "a great relief", Nicholson, his famous sheepskin coat totally saturated by the deluge, added "they have just been running on a two-star petrol instead of four-star. All you can do is keep on going, not blame the jockey and try to keep the stable staff happy", he said.

As regards Against the Grain's future, Nicholson said he was potentially a very good horse and would be tested to find out just how good in the Triumph Hurdle Trial at Cheltenham in two weeks time.

There Against the Grain could well meet the winner of the second division of the Freshman's Hurdle, Double Swing, who won easily from Wassam, but may have been lucky to do so. The latter's stable companion, Bronski, had just been

brought with what looked like a winning challenge by John Francombe when he tumbled over at the last hurdle.

Another happy man once again yesterday was Francombe's principal employer, Fred Winter, who has endured not merely a rough ride in certain sections of the press recently, but also suffered set-backs to some of his best horses.

After Francombe had made all the running to win the Oxfordshire Chase on Friday, he described candidly as "not a great horse, but sure to improve and win a lot of races". The Lambourn trainer had news of some of his sidelined stable stars.

Sadly, he confirmed that both Brown Chamberlain and Fifty Dollars are unlikely to be seen again this season. "I'd rather give them, give them a year off and bring them back fresh", Winter said.

As for the Champion Hurdle candidate, he has been out of action with lung trouble and has only just started exercising again. Plans for the moment are obviously very much in abeyance. Two Airline hopes emerged from the mist and the mud yesterday in the shape of Glenfox, who made all the running to win the Clonfield Conditional

Jockey Chase, and Classified, who strolled home from Colombo in the Jack Up Chase.

Sam Mellor believes he has a genuine Grand National candidate in Glenfox, who won three point-to-points and a hunter chase in Ireland

MARKET RASEN

GOING: Soft. 7.30am inspection

12.30 GEORGE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (25.5m) (10 runners)

1	5004	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5100	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5101	LESS OF MAN	(D)	B. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5005	CLAYMORE	(D)	T. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5006	ARABIAN	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5007	SALLABETH	(D)	T. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5008	SPEAK TO ME	(D)	B. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5009	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
9	5010	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
10	5011	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.0 RED LION NOVICE CHASE (21,112: 2m 5f) (9)

1	5102	CALDWELL LASS	(D)	R. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5103	LESS OF MAN	(D)	B. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5104	CLAYMORE	(D)	T. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5105	ARABIAN	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5106	SALLABETH	(D)	T. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5107	SPEAK TO ME	(D)	B. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5108	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5109	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
9	5110	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5111	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5112	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5113	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5114	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5115	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5116	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5117	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5118	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5119	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5120	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5121	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5122	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5123	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5124	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5125	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5126	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5127	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5128	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5129	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5130	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5131	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5132	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5133	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5134	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5135	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5136	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5137	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5138	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5139	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5140	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5141	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5142	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5143	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5144	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5145	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5146	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5147	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5148	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5149	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5150	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5151	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5152	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5153	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5154	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5155	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5156	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5157	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5158	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5159	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5160	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5161	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5162	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5163	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5164	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5165	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5166	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5167	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5168	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5169	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5170	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5171	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5172	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5173	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5174	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5175	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5176	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5177	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5178	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5179	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5180	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5181	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5182	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5183	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5184	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5185	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5186	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5187	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5188	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5189	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5190	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5191	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5192	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5193	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5194	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5195	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5196	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5197	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5198	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5199	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5200	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
3	5201	CASTLE OFFICIAL	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
4	5202	ATLANTIC	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
5	5203	DEADEND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
6	5204	OUTWIND	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
7	5205	PRINCE OF WALES	(D)	W. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
8	5206	VESTAL TELEGRAPH	(D)	P. Allingham 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10

11-14 Laps Of Man, 4 Sallabeth, 5 Vestal Telegraph, 13-2 Arab, 10 Macquie River, 14 others.

1.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: 21,288: 2m) (8)

1	5207	DOVER	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-10
2	5208	ARTIST	(D)	M. J. P. 11-10	M. J. P. 11-1

Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday

BBC 1

- 8.30 The Perishers, with the voice of Leonard Rossiter as Boot (r). 8.35 The Littlest Hobo (r). 9.00 Saturday Super Store managed by Mike Read. Neil, the country's best known laid-back hippie, galvanizes himself and tells the story of a gnome called Grumble. Plus other guests who include Floella Benjamin, singer and actor Paul Nicholas and Sue Cook who has the latest news. Last night's Children in Need appeal. 12.12 Weather.
- 12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: 12.20 Football focus with Bob Wilson; 12.40, 1.10, 1.45 Racing from Newbury (including, at 1.00, a preview of the big race of the day, The Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Handicap Stakes); 1.55 News summary; 1.25, 2.00 and 4.15 Snooker: the Coral United Kingdom Championship. 1.10 Rugby Union: the game at Cardiff Arms Park between Wales and Australia; 3.50 Half-time scores and reports; 3.55 Athletics: the Presto Food Markets International Cross Country from Gateshead; 4.40 Final score.
- 5.05 News with Jan Leeming 5.15 Sport/regional news.
- 5.20 The Tripods. Episode 11 of the science fiction series and the three young men, making their way to the White Mountain, accept a lift from a French farmer who takes them to a ruined abbey (Ceefax).
- 5.45 The Noel Edmonds Late Late Breakfast Show with guests who include the band, Kool and Gang.
- 6.35 Bob's Full House. Bob Monkhouse with another edition of the electronic bingo game (Ceefax).
- 7.10 Juliet Bravo. A prisoner is found dead in a cell at Hartley Police Station and the last person to see him alive is a police sergeant who immediately hands in his resignation (Ceefax).
- 8.00 H-de-Hi Promotion at last for the eager Peggy - not to her long desired Yellowcard, but to deputy supervisor of chalet maintenance (Ceefax).
- 8.30 Dynasty. Blake and Krystle use the occasion of the Harlow Charity Ball, which Henry Kissinger and Gerald and Betty Ford are guests, to announce their intention to re-marry (Ceefax).
- 9.20 Wogan. Tony Wogan's guests tonight are actor Tom Conti, tennis star Chris Evert-Lloyd and the former Punch editor, William Davies. The musical interlude is provided by Harvey and the Wallbangers.
- 10.10 News and sport. With Jan Leeming.
- 10.25 Match of the Day. Jimmy Hill introduces highlights of the games played in the First and Second divisions of the Canon League. Plus the Goal of the Month competition.
- 11.15 International Snooker. The Coral United Kingdom Championship first round matches involving Tony King, Willie Thorne and others. Introduced by David Vine.
- 12.00 Weather.

tv-am

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain, presented by Henry Kelly, begins with a repeat of a Dream Home episode; news at 6.25, 7.00 and 8.00; Sunday Call at 8.30; sport at 7.10; cooking with Rustie Lee at 8.15. The Queens include Jack Ashley and Jessica Rhys.
- 8.30 The Wide Awake Club for children.
- 9.25 Cartoon Time. 9.30 Fraggles. 10.10 The Sunday Starship presented by Bonnie Langford, Tommy Boyd and Nigel Roberts. 11.20 Myster T. Cartoon adventures of the A-Team character. 11.45 Catewaze (r).
- 12.15 World of Sport introduced by Dickie Davies. The line-up is: 12.20 World Championship Snooker. Jim Rossiter reflects on the year's best bouts; 12.45 News; 12.50 On the Ball; 1.15, 1.45 and 2.15 Racing from Ayr; 1.30 and 2.00 Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics; the European Championships from Vienna; 2.30 The Sportsman of the Year Awards Lunch, from the Savoy Hotel, London; 3.10 Interviews from Heavyweight Boxing from Gateshead Leisure Centre; Rodney Frazier (US) v Bobby Crabtree (US) and Glen Murray (GB) v Mike Perkins (US); 3.45 Half-time scores and reports; 4.00 Wrestling: three bouts from Dartford; 4.45 Results.
- 5.00 News and Sport.
- 5.05 Candid Camera. Highlights from the American version of the ever-been-had series.
- 5.35 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers.
- 6.05 The A-Team go to the assistance of a brother/sister logging operation that is being threatened by a crooked union leader.
- 7.00 Tarby and Friends. The first of a new series of variety shows presented by Jimmy Tarbuck. His guests are Lenny Henry, Grace Kennedy and Chic Murray.
- 7.45 Punchlines. Celebrity quiz game.
- 8.15 3-2-1. Quiz game, presented by Ted Rogers, in which, this week, couples from Bedford, Cornwall and Leeds are competing (Ceefax).
- 8.15 The Gentle Touch. Detective inspector Maggie Foster finds herself battling for her future, both personal and professional, after she receives threatening telephone calls and a senior civil servant is found murdered in a prostitute's apartment (Oracle).
- 10.15 News and sport.
- 10.30 Film: Magic (1978) starring Anthony Hopkins, Ann-Margaret and Burgess Meredith. Chilling drama about a ventriloquist who appears to have been taken over by his out-of-control dummy, Fats. Directed by Richard Attenborough.
- 12.10 London news headlines followed by Bettyann in which the policeman is on the trail of a baby sitter who has murdered the mother of one of her charges.
- 1.05 Night Thoughts.



Mary Morris and Leonard Rossiter in 'The Life and Death of King John', by William Shakespeare (BBC 2, 8.30pm)

BBC 2

- 9.00 Ceefax.
- 10.30 Championship Snooker from the Guild Hall, Preston. David Vine introduces two first round matches in the Coral United Kingdom Championship.
- 11.50 Open University: Science. Moths and flies. 12.15 Be a Sumbuddy. 12.40 Miling and Mastitis. 1.05 Ceefax.
- 1.55 Film: 'Jitterbug' (1943) starring Laurel and Hardy as a two-man jitterbugging team who are stranded on a desert road when their car runs out of petrol. Directed by Malcolm St Clair.
- 3.45 Film: 'Jitterbug' (1943) starring Laurel and Hardy as a two-man jitterbugging team who are stranded on a desert road when their car runs out of petrol. Directed by Malcolm St Clair.
- 5.05 Brookside. A compilation of the week's two episodes.
- 6.00 Danger Man. Secret agent John Drake is in darkest Africa searching for the native Louis Jordan. Romantic comedy about a Russian princess who is being forced into marriage with someone she doesn't know and who, himself, is not interested. Directed by Charles Vidor.
- 6.30 Rick in America. Rick Ducommun with video clips of, among others, Meatloaf, Manfred Mann and Planet P.
- 7.00 News summary and weather followed by 7 Days. A series of Loose discussions with Mary Midgley the issues raised in her new book 'Wickedness'; Charles Moore, editor of The Spectator, talks about trade unions; Bishop Montefiore comments on the Church and the State; and there is film of St Catherine's Mill, Bramley, a tangible example of the Church's contribution to the national debate on unemployment.
- 7.30 Super International Netball. Trophy England v Jamaica. Highlights of this afternoon's game at Wembley Arena.
- 8.00 The Sonnets of William Shakespeare. Michael Bryant performs Sonnet 66, which is then commented upon by playwright Arnold Wesker.
- 8.15 The 100th Anniversary of the drama series starring Mel Smith as a north country wheeler-dealer.
- 9.15 Ladybirds. A musical portrait of Bertice Reading (r).
- 10.00 Hill Street Blues. A young police officer kills himself after an off-duty orgy.
- 11.00 Pushing Up Daisies. A series of comedy sketches.
- 11.30 Film: 'The Thirteenth Chair' (1937) starring Danyel Whitey. A murder in Calcutta leads the authorities calling on the assistance of a famous medium, Madame Rosalee La Sage. Directed by George B. Sais.
- 12.45 Closedown.

CHANNEL 4

- 1.05 Making the Most of... Inexpensive leisure activities (r).
- 1.30 Chip Carle. Entertaining educational programme for children.
- 2.00 Film: 'The Cocooners' (1929) starring the Marx Brothers. Marvellously funny goings-on in a hotel in Florida Directed by Joseph Santley and Robert Florey.
- 3.45 Film: 'Jitterbug' (1943) starring Laurel and Hardy as a two-man jitterbugging team who are stranded on a desert road when their car runs out of petrol. Directed by Malcolm St Clair.
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BBC 1

- 8.55 Heads and Tails. (r). 8.10 People First. The second of five programmes for parents of mentally handicapped children (r).
- 9.35 Making the Most of the Micro. How computers make musical and sometimes speech noises.
- 10.00 Asian Magazine. This week's edition includes an interview with sports writer Mike Rose who has recently written a book, The Age of Khans. 10.30 L-shaped. The last programme in the series for learner drivers whose second language is English. 10.55 A view of the French Lesson eight of the French conversation course.
- 11.20 Knock Knock. Stories for children from around the world. 11.35 This is the Day. Sunday Worship from the Guild Hall, Preston. A friend of Fr. Christopher Bryant.
- 12.05 See Hear Magazine programme for the hard of hearing. 12.30 Farming. 12.55 Weather. 12.55 Magic Roundabout (r).
- 1.00 This Week Next Week, presented by David Dimbleby, begins with news headlines; a review of the Sunday papers; and a week in the life of the British Whiffy Gordon Bates, who is also in the studio, talking about the effect unemployment has had on his flock.
- 1.50 Face the Music. Joseph Copley the questionmaster as Sue Cook, John Julius Norwich and Valerie Pitts test their musical knowledge.
- 2.25 Championship Snooker. The Coral United Kingdom Championship from the Guild Hall, Preston. Film 3.45 Carry on Nurse (1958) Mayhem in the men's surgical ward of the Haven Hospital where a bunch of drunken patients make life hell for the staff and the formidable matron (Hattie Jacques). Directed by Gerald Thomas.
- 5.10 Championship Snooker. Another visit to the Guild Hall, Preston, for second round action in the Coral United Kingdom Championship.
- 6.00 The Prisoner of Zenda. Part two of the dramatization. Anthony Hope's novel and Rudolf is persuaded to take the drugged king's place at the coronation (Ceefax).
- 6.30 News with Jan Leeming.
- 6.40 Songs of Praise from Atlantic College, South Glamorgan. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales explores the concept of Wheeler why he believes that the college's aim of putting the Gospel of Peace into practice is so important (Ceefax).
- 7.15 Royal Variety Performance in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Prince and Princess of Wales. A host of comedy and musical stars on the stage of the Victoria Palace Theatre, London, introduced by John Dunn.
- 8.35 approximately News with Jan Leeming.
- 8.50 Royal Variety Performance Part two.
- 10.15 approximately News. Part two of Warriors of Paradise, about life in Iran, focuses on the Afshar family who have lost four sons since the revolution.
- 10.55 Championship Snooker. David Vine introduces highlights of the day's play in the Coral United Kingdom Championship.
- 12.15 Weather.

tv-am

- 6.55 Good Morning Britain, presented by David Frost, begins with a Thought for Sunday; news at 7.00 followed by Jan Barrett's Pick of the Week; 7.00 Roland Rat; 7.45 Rub-a-Dub-Tub (r); 8.45 The David Frost interview; 9.00 News headlines.
- ITV/LONDON
- 9.25 Cartoon Time. 9.35 The Smurfs. 9.50 Cartoon Time.
- 10.00 Morning Worship from St Giles Church, Northampton.
- 11.00 Link. Rosalie Wilkins talks to Norman Croucher who has lost both limbs but has still managed to climb some of the highest mountains in the world. He has written a book about his experiences - A Man With His Mountain. Plus advice on assisting the disabled in the lavatory. 11.30 A Sense of the Past. Graeme Garden in search for good food (r).
- 12.00 Weekend World. Brian Wilson examines whether the Government's plans to abolish the Metropolitan and Greater London Councils really will streamline our cities. 1.00 Radio 5.
- 1.15 Cartoon Time; 1.30 Survival: A Floating Home. The story of the Jacanas, nicknamed fly-brothers because of their ability to walk on the floating vegetation of lakes (r).
- 2.00 London news headlines followed by The Human Factor. Peter Williams meets the Chemopioneers, a group of cancer patients and their doctors.
- 2.30 The Big Match Live. Jim Rosenthal is at Hillsborough for the game between Sheffield Wednesday and Arsenal.
- 4.30 Tenetawks. Science fiction puppet series.
- 5.00 Bullseye. Darts and general knowledge game.
- 5.30 Sunday Sunday. Gloria Hunniford's guests are Fred Feast, Zandra Rhodes, Michael Barrymore, Bonnie Langford and The Flying Pickets. The guest critics are Roy Kinnear and Katie Boyle.
- 6.30 News.
- 6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Scobee in the Suffolk village of Thorpe.
- 7.15 Child's Play. Lynn Edwards and Lulu decipher everyday things from descriptions given by children.
- 7.45 Surprise Surprise! The unexpected introduced by Cilla Black and Christopher Biggins.
- 8.45 The Professionals. Bodie tastes romance but a period of dalliance is interrupted when he finds himself besieged in a vicarage (r).
- 9.45 News.
- 10.00 Clive James on Television. Programme shown in the Land of the Rising Sun get the James treatment.
- 10.30 The South Bank Show introduced by Melvyn Bragg. Tonight's edition is a film that explores the affinity between Max Wall and Samuel Beckett, illustrated by extracts of Wall performing in Beckett's works.
- 11.30 London news headlines followed by South of Watford. Ben Elton examines the fantasy role-playing game, Treasure Play (r).
- 12.00 The Work We Do. An Australian documentary about the work of the perils of retirement.
- 12.15 Night Thoughts.



Max Wall and Peter Woodthorpe in a scene from 'Waiting for Godot' (South Bank Show, ITV, 10.30pm)

BBC 2

- 9.00 Ceefax. 10.45 Open University: Science. Preparatory Maths: Algebra. 11.00 Getting Paid.
- 11.25 Championship Snooker. David Vine introduces coverage of a second round match between Alex Higgins and Rex Williams in the Coral United Kingdom Championship.
- 12.55 Milking and Mastitis. An Open University programme (r).
- 1.20 Ceefax. 1.55 Horizons: The Brain Puzzle. The modernity about the scientific advances made in the repairing of the human brain.
- 2.45 The World Chess Championship. Jeremy James reports on the latest run of the game between the holder, Anatoly Kasparov and Gary Karpov.
- 3.10 George Orwell. Part two: the Road to Wigan Pier. The story of Orwell's marriage to Eileen O'Shaughnessy and his visit to Wigan which sparked Orwell's political awareness (r).
- 4.05 Music from St George's. The second of six concerts from St George's, Bristol, features The Songmakers' Almanac, with Felicity Lott (soprano), Graham Johnson (piano) and Gabriel Woolf (cello), performing romantic songs by Schumann.
- 4.55 Geoffrey Smith's World of Flowers. The British origins of tulips (r).
- 5.20 Sir Hugh Casson, who retires next week after nearly a decade as President of the Royal Academy, talks to Chris Kelly.
- 6.00 News Review.
- 6.30 The Money Programme includes a report on why the success of the Falklands conflict has not led to a rush of orders.
- 7.15 Our House. The 300 year old Crippen Farm, the Suffolk home for all his life of 72-year-old Jack Carter.
- 7.45 The Natural World: The Desire of the bird. The profile of the nocturnal raptors.
- 8.35 Did You See? Whistle Test, 28Up and The Long March reviewed by Nick Brown, Angela Pope and Neil Jordan.
- 9.20 The Year Of... Doris Williams, a 74-year-old milder widow.
- 9.50 News with Jan Leeming.
- 9.55 George Stubbs, Painter. The story of the celebrated painter.
- 10.30 Film: Dark Star (1974) starring Don Ameche and Gene Tierney. Comedy about a playboy who, after a death, has an argument with Satan over whether or not he should be in the Lower Regions or the Upper Regions. Directed by Ernest Lubitch.
- 12.15 Closedown.

CHANNEL 4

- 1.05 Utopia Limited. Efficient uses of energy (r).
- 1.30 Irish Xmas examines the problem of stress within the Ulster security forces which may have accounted for this year's 11 suicides.
- 2.00 Film: 'One Night of Love' (1934) starring Grace Moore. The story of an American girl who spends her last dollars on a trip to Italy to study singing.
- 3.35 Doodle Film. The cartoon story of an inveterate doodler.
- 3.45 Six Centuries of English Verse. This 14th of 16 programmes covers the 50 years from the end of the Victorian era and includes works by Thomas Hardy, Gerard Manley Hopkins and Rudyard Kipling.
- 4.15 Book Four, presented by Hermione Lee. Alan Coran reviews Joseph Heller's latest novel, God Knows; Margaret Forster has chosen Kruger's Alp; by Christopher Hope; and Peter Ackroyd has read the biography of the 17th century entrepreneur, Godwin Wharton. The panel then jointly discuss Graham Greene's latest work, Getting to Know the General.
- 4.45 Karen Armstrong. The former nun talks to Charles Davis who argues that God can be a form of loneliness.
- 5.10 News summary.
- 5.15 The Business Programme includes an interview with Hans Werthen, chairman of Electrolux, the company which has recently taken over Zanussi and now has 40 per cent of the European white goods market.
- 6.00 American Football. Highlights of the game between San Diego Chargers and the Miami Dolphins.
- 7.15 The Dismissal. Part three of the six-part programme dramatisation of the events that led to the Gough Whitlam government's dismissal by the Governor General of Australia in November 1975.
- 8.15 South Seas Voyage. The first of a new four-part series that follows Krov and Ann Meruhin with their baby son Aaron, as they explore the remote islands of Melanesia.
- 9.15 People to People. The story of how the people of Somerset, a slum area of London, were rehoused.
- 10.15 Film: Heaven Can Wait (1943) starring Don Ameche and Gene Tierney. Comedy about a playboy who, after a death, has an argument with Satan over whether or not he should be in the Lower Regions or the Upper Regions. Directed by Ernest Lubitch.
- 12.15 Closedown.

Radio 4

- On long wave, 10 denotes stereo on VHF.
- 5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Praise. 6.30 News. Farming Today. 6.30 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.45 In Perspective. 7.50 Down to Earth. Weekend garden guide. 7.55 Weather. Travel.
- 8.00 News. 8.10 Today's Papers. 8.15 Sport On. 8.20 News. 8.25 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather. Travel. 9.00 News. 9.05 Profile. With Roger Cook. Profile. Janet Finch talks to a writer and novelist V.S. Naipaul.
- 9.50 New Stand. Michael Watts's review of the week's magazines.
- 10.05 The Week in Westminster. With Peter Kellner.
- 10.30 Pick of the Week. With Margaret Wood.
- 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 12.00 News. Money Box. With Louise Botting.
- 12.27 The New Quiz. With Simon Hoggart, Alan Coran, Michael Whelan, Frank Keating and Gillian Heywood.
- 1.00 News. 1.10 Any Questions? from Christopher Dorset. With Chris Cummins. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 News. 4.10 News. 4.15 News. 4.20 News. 4.25 News. 4.30 News. 4.35 News. 4.40 News. 4.45 News. 4.50 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.05 News. 5.10 News. 5.15 News. 5.20 News. 5.25 News. 5.30 News. 5.35 News. 5.40 News. 5.45 News. 5.50 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.05 News. 6.10 News. 6.15 News. 6.20 News. 6.25 News. 6.30 News. 6.35 News. 6.40 News. 6.45 News. 6.50 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.05 News. 7.10 News. 7.15 News. 7.20 News. 7.25 News. 7.30 News. 7.35 News. 7.40 News. 7.45 News. 7.50 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.05 News. 8.10 News. 8.15 News. 8.20 News. 8.25 News. 8.30 News. 8.35 News. 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Unions tell Howe Prince and bodyguard put on giant show

Cuts in the budget for Britain's overseas representation announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, are stirring up trouble for the future, five trade unions in the Foreign Office said yesterday.

The unions, like MPs, have not been told exactly how much will be saved by the proposed cuts which provoked one of the most serious rebellions against the Government by Conservative MPs on Thursday night.

The unions said in a statement the cuts "may not be as large as previously rumoured but they do matter. All these are real cuts. They are a loss now and are bound to store up trouble for the future. Influence lost now will cost far more to regain."

It added: "Countries where embassies are shut will read the obvious lesson that Britain does not care about them. The loss of consular services for British subjects in distress and a cut of commercial aid and advice for would-be British exporters."

Sir Geoffrey Howe's "unchanged" Foreign Office budget of £1,870 million for 1985-86 represents a squeeze largely because of the fall of the value of the pound, Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor, writes.

The Foreign Office thought it had a deal with the Treasury

that such an unavoidable increase in overseas costs, measured in sterling, would be paid for. The Treasury view, which has prevailed so far, is that it would pay up only if offsetting savings could not be found. The Foreign Office will

The MPs voting against the Government were the former ministers, Mr Jim Lester (Barnsley) and Mr Reginald Prentice (Dartford); Mr Dennis Dwyer (Chorley); Mr Richard Shepherd (Aldridge-Brownhills); Mr Bowen Wells (Hertford and Stortford); Sir Anthony Meyer (Clwyd North-west); Mr Robert Rhodes James (Cambridge); and Mr Robert Harvey (Clwyd South-west).

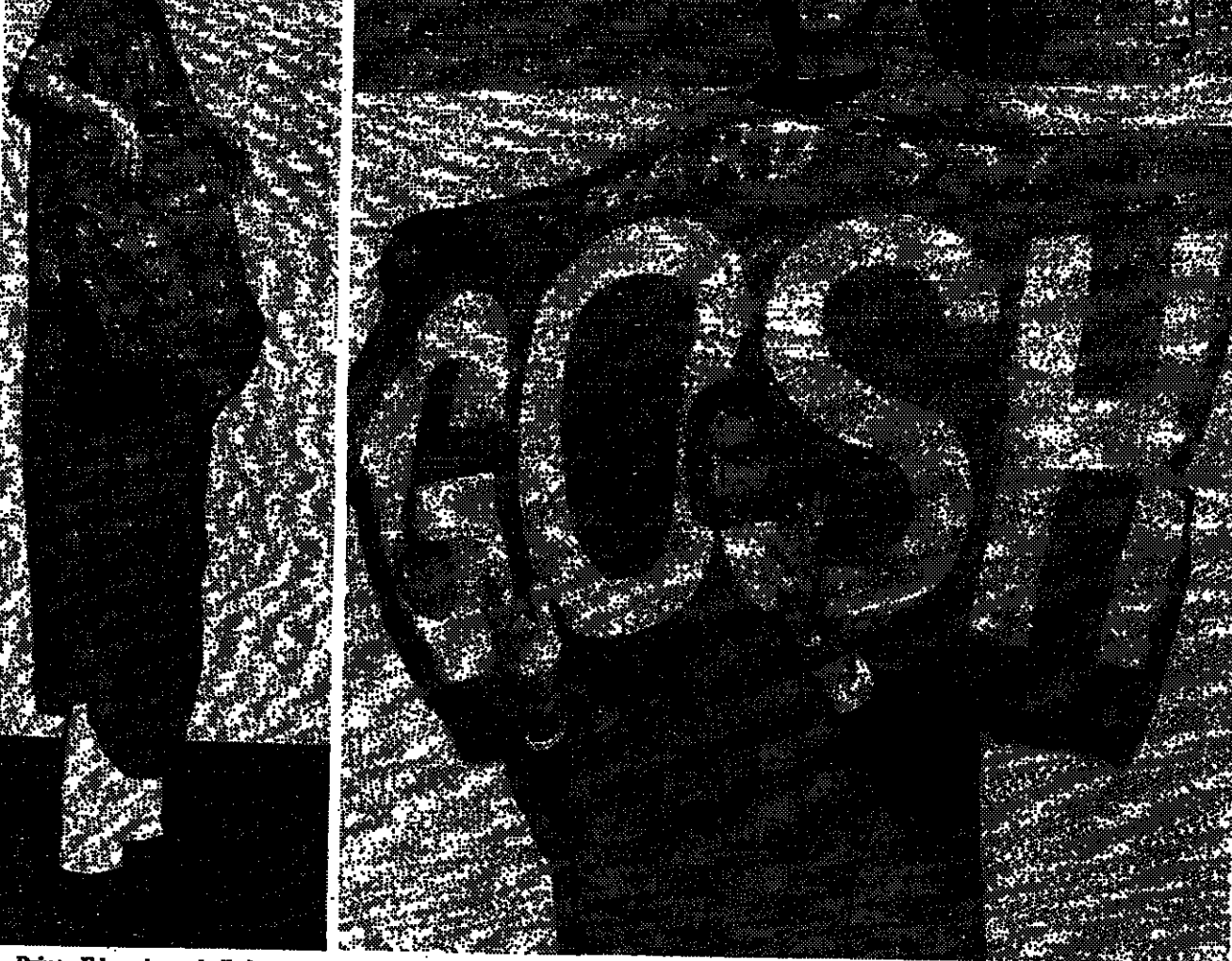
make an extra try for cash help when the Government's supplementary estimates for public spending are prepared in the spring.

Within the Foreign Office budget, there have been compromises. The British Council has to "find" savings of £1.2 million, to meet part of its £7 million increase in costs. The BBC external services have been allowed an extra £750,000, but have to find out £1 million themselves.

The diplomatic service has to find part of the cost increase by cutting manpower. The extra money for all three has to be found by cuts elsewhere.

The figures are complicated by the way the Foreign Office breaks down its budget. More than half its expenditure goes on the overseas aid programme. This is not guaranteed against rising foreign costs, and remains unchanged at £1,130 million for 1985-86.

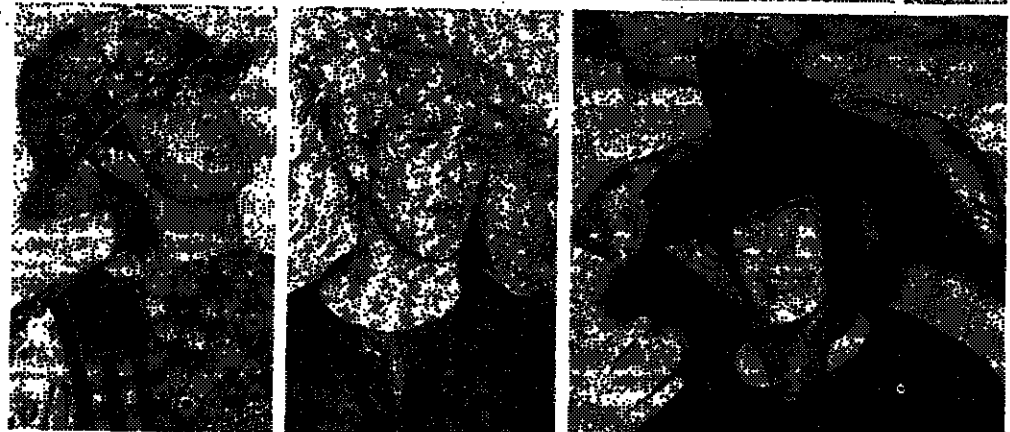
The aid programme itself is under another kind of pressure. Since the total has been held roughly constant, but Britain's "multilateral" aid through international agencies has risen, its "bilateral" aid to individual countries in Africa and Asia has fallen.



Prince Edward was hailed as the new court jester in succession to the Prince of Wales last night after a stage performance at Cambridge that rivalled Monty Python and the Goons. Prince Charles appeared as a singing dushman in his student days.

Prince Edward's 6ft 5in bodyguard, Sergeant Andrew Morrison, joined him as the other half of a giant (above).

Altogether the Prince, aged 20, took on eight guises, including those of Phoni Sid, a Cockney spiv and the evil Lord Zolburg in an undergraduate review "Captain Curious and his incredible Quest".



Working miner attacked at home

Continued from page 1

from increasing debts and the prospect of a cheerless Christmas for his family. He joined four other men, the only miners from the pit's 1,000-strong workforce to cross picket lines.

Yesterday he left his semi-detached home on a housing estate in Alredale, near Castleford, at 4.30 in the morning to head for a pre-arranged rendezvous with a Coal Board van that was to take him to work. He left his wife Josephine, aged 20, who is expecting a baby in May, and their two young children, Michael, aged three, and Toyah, aged one and a half.

From his hospital bed in Pontefract General Infirmary, Mr Fletcher, constantly winced with pain, shaking and pale-faced, told what happened next.

Mr Fletcher, who said that he recognized one of the gang of 20 pickets outside his house as a workmate, managed to crawl to his telephone and ring the police after the men ran off.

Mrs Fletcher, who told her she sat upstairs during the attack, comforting her two children and listening to the screams of her husband, said: "When he comes out of hospital he will go back to work, we are not going to be beaten by these thugs".

The police officer in charge of the investigation, Chief Det Inspector Sam Magaw said last night that officers were pursuing "certain lines of inquiry".

Mr Graham Ranton, the NUM delegate at Fryton colliery, said that he did not know who had carried out the attack and that "outsiders" may have been responsible.

A co-ordinator Mr Fletcher's action in going back to work but I condemn the violence used against him. We would rather talk to him but he won't talk to us.

"We don't know who it was who carried out the attack. We are trying to find out. But this was not organized by the NUM at Fryton colliery".

Last night, West Yorkshire police announced that two men were assisting with inquiries

'Union or your job' warning at GCHQ

Continued from page 1

union membership must be made 100 per cent as soon as reasonably possible if the original decision, taken on grounds of national security, is to make any sense.

The management expects a new outcry when it begins to act against card-carrying unionists, if that becomes necessary, but having uncomfortably ridden out 10 months of protest it believes it will overcome that storm, too, without further damage.

It is assumed that there are about 7,000 GCHQ staff at Cheltenham and its British and foreign outstations. The number of staff at the main base fell to 150 at one time, but an estimated 200 rejoined Civil Service trade unions after the High Court ruling, now overturned, that the union ban was unlawful.

Cheltenham members of GCHQ Trade Union plan to hold a meeting on Monday to discuss the future, but there will be an important meeting in London next month, at which staff from outstations will be present.

The staff were yesterday handed leaflets telling them "the fight goes on" outside the establishment's two Cheltenham centres, by colleagues who still proudly carry union cards.

Leaders of the Civil Service unions in Scotland and last night that about half of their 45,000 members went on strike yesterday in protest against the Law Lords' ruling (our Glasgow Correspondent writes).

Mr Eddie Reilly, secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association in Scotland, said that all services ranging from those in the Scottish Office, Edinburgh, to Department of Health and Social Security offices, were seriously affected.

Royal Naval dockyards at Faslane and Rosyth were unaffected, but about 86 per cent of the staff at the National Engineering Laboratory at East Kilbride walked out on noon.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,588



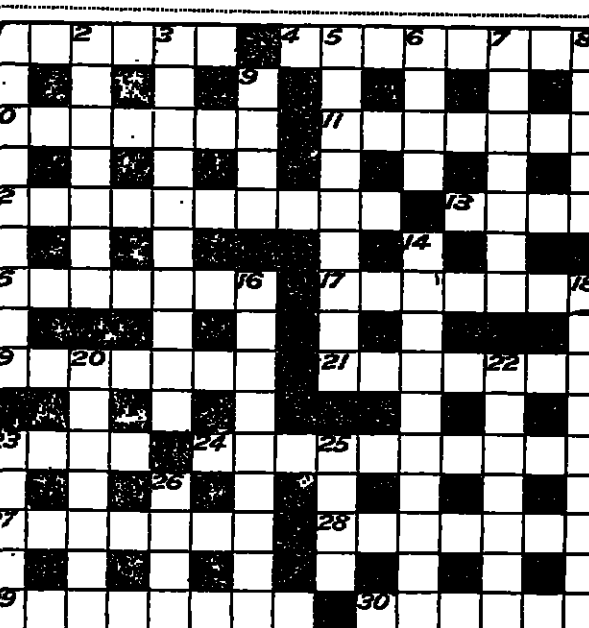
Solution of Puzzle No 16,593



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,594

A price of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions received next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are J. C. F. Townsend, 17 Townsend Drive, St Albans; Miss C. C. C. Spoor, 21 Byron Mansions, Corbett Tey Road, Upminster.



- ACROSS
- Verdes stored therein must proverbially be good (6,8).
 - Sensational electrifying reading? (7).
 - One putting egg diamond on finger of Audrey in Arden? (10).
 - A doctor's a follower of Joel (4).
 - Oppressive emperor in house he lost (7).
 - Sporting city of fashion? (7).
 - So unrealistic the value of the pound in your pocket? (7).
 - Point to churchman - one responsible for a put-up job? (7).
 - She might so dress herself up (4).
 - From the beathen's heart an eastern type of creed (10).
 - German siren (in tradition the Spanish one) (7).
 - Bird consuming her form of weed (7).
 - Mariner is one who sees about a return service (8).
 - Married girl from spite (6).
- DOWN
- After US boom died, what those going west may see - or live in? (5,4).
 - Hawaiian offering certainly enjoyed by holiday-makers? (7).
 - Like Apollo returning - or failing to achieve (10-11) (5-5).
 - Ruddy peer's bit of old gold (4,5).
 - Eager to see an old giant (4).
 - Trunk emptied - contents needing to be combed out (7).
 - French earthenware (5).
 - One army subdivision (4).
 - Came right into a nice mess, as recorder of Laurel and Hardy (4-6).
 - One diamond in an American card game (9).
 - Handed glasses to right with gentle movement (9).
 - French complaint over song causes ill-feeling (7).
 - Journey to a sort of oil port (7).
 - Regained by a cobbler up in this island (5).
 - Principal feature of a vault (4).
 - Jumble sale bonanza (4).

Today's events

New exhibitions
Headhunter: Fantastic Faces City Museum and Art Gallery, Broad St, Haulley, Stoke; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10 to 8; (ends Jan 5).

Sculpture in the Making by Henry Moore: Leeds City Art Gallery, The Headrow; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Wed 10 to 9, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Jan 6).

Wildcat: Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Dec 22).

Exhibition in progress
Images of Gloucester: Corinium Museum, Park St, Cirencester, Glos; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Feb 17).

Music
Concert by the Ulster Orchestra; Ulster Hall, Belfast, 7.30.

Concert by the Bohemia Boys String Orchestra from Calcutta; Clifton Cathedral, Bristol, 8.

Concert by Hereford Choral Society and Orchestra da Camera; Hereford Cathedral, 7.30.

Recital by Ian Partridge (tenor) and Jennifer Partridge (piano); Salford House, Plymouth, Devon, 7.

Concert by the Goldenberg Ensemble; Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 7.30.

Concert by the Eder String Quartet from Hungary; Assembly House, Norwich, 7.30.

Concert by the Canterbury Singers, St Peter's Church, Canterbury, 8.

Makers Guild Craft Fair; Foyers, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 10 to 5.

Kenneth Craft Market, St Peter's Church, Marlborough, 10 to 4.30.

Christmas Craft Fair; Dover Town Hall, 10 to 5.

General
Makers Guild Craft Fair; Foyers, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 10 to 5.

Tomorrow's events

Music
Concert by the Oxford Harmonic Society; Oxford Town Hall, 8.

Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra; His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, 2.45.

Concert by St Peter's Singers and Chamber Orchestra; Parish Church, Leeds, 8.15.

Concert by the Scottish Sinfonia; Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, 7.45.

Concert by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra; City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Sinfonietta; Medina High School, Newport, Isle of Wight, 2.30.

Concert by the Israel Piano Trio; Ferkley Centre, Knesset Yoran, 8.

Concert by the Sheffield Symphony Orchestra; St Marie's Cathedral, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, 8.

General
Antiques Fair; Banqueting Barns, Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts, 11 to 5.

Book Market; Red Lion Hotel, Salisbury, 10.30 to 4.30.

In the garden
It is now wise to cover some plants against frost with 4 to 6 ins of peat, leaves, straw or dry bracken.

Crucifers, hellebores, (amarillids), crocuses and anemones are susceptible in all but very mild districts. Hardy fuchsias, once established for two years, are unlikely to suffer even in a severe winter. But any plants in the process of flowering or about to flower should be given some protection as their new roots may not have gone deeply enough to escape a severe frost.

Globe arctostaphylos may also need protection in bitter spells. Cut the stems down to about 5 ins. Lay a foot of straw between the rows. In freezing spells draw it over the plants but pull it away when the thaws come.

Herbaceous perennials are usually frost hardy, but it pays to tie up the kniphofias (red hot pokers) together, wigwag them, to protect the crowns from rain and frost.

Anniversaries
Today
Birth: Benedict Spinoza, philosopher, Amsterdam, 1632; Laurence Sterne, writer, author of *Tristram Shandy*, Clonmel, Co Tipperary, 1713; Zachary Taylor, 12th president of the USA, 1790-50; Montserrat, heroine of the Forfarshire steamboat wreck, Bamburgh, Northumberland, 1815; Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Albi, France, 1864.

Deaths: John Knox, Edinburgh, 1572; William Lamb, 2nd Viscount Melbourne, prime minister, 1834; 1835-41; Hatfield, Hertfordshire, 1848; Erskine Childers, Irish nationalist and writer, author of *Riddle of the Sands*, executed, Dublin, 1922; Georges Clemenceau, premier of France 1917-20, Paris, 1929; Van Diemen's Land was discovered by Abel Tasman, 1642; renamed Tasmania, 1853.

Roads

Wales and West: A37: At various locations on the Dorchester to Yeovil Rd maintenance work means traffic restrictions. M4: Only one lane operating between junctions 21 and 22 (Aust Sts to Chippenham) seven days a week. The M4 will be closed for repairs at Junction 1, Slidon Moss, Macclesfield, 10.30 to 12.00. M6: Cancellation between junctions 15 (M18 Jct) and 27 (Huddersfield).

London: SE, central S, E, central N: A strong unstable W airflow covers the UK with troughs of low pressure swinging SE bringing longer periods of rain to N and W districts.

6 am to midnight
London: SE, central S, E, central N: A strong unstable W airflow covers the UK with troughs of low pressure swinging SE bringing longer periods of rain to N and W districts.

Wales: Sunny intervals and showers, but prolonged at times; wind W strong locally becoming a gale force.

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SEA PASSENGERS: North Sea: Storms of rain, English Channel (S), St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind strong to severe gale; showers, visibility good, sea very rough.

NOON TODAY
London: 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30